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#1
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BUBBLE GUN™

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david CURIEL
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Mark Roslan

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BUBBLEGUN™ Vol. 1 Issue 1

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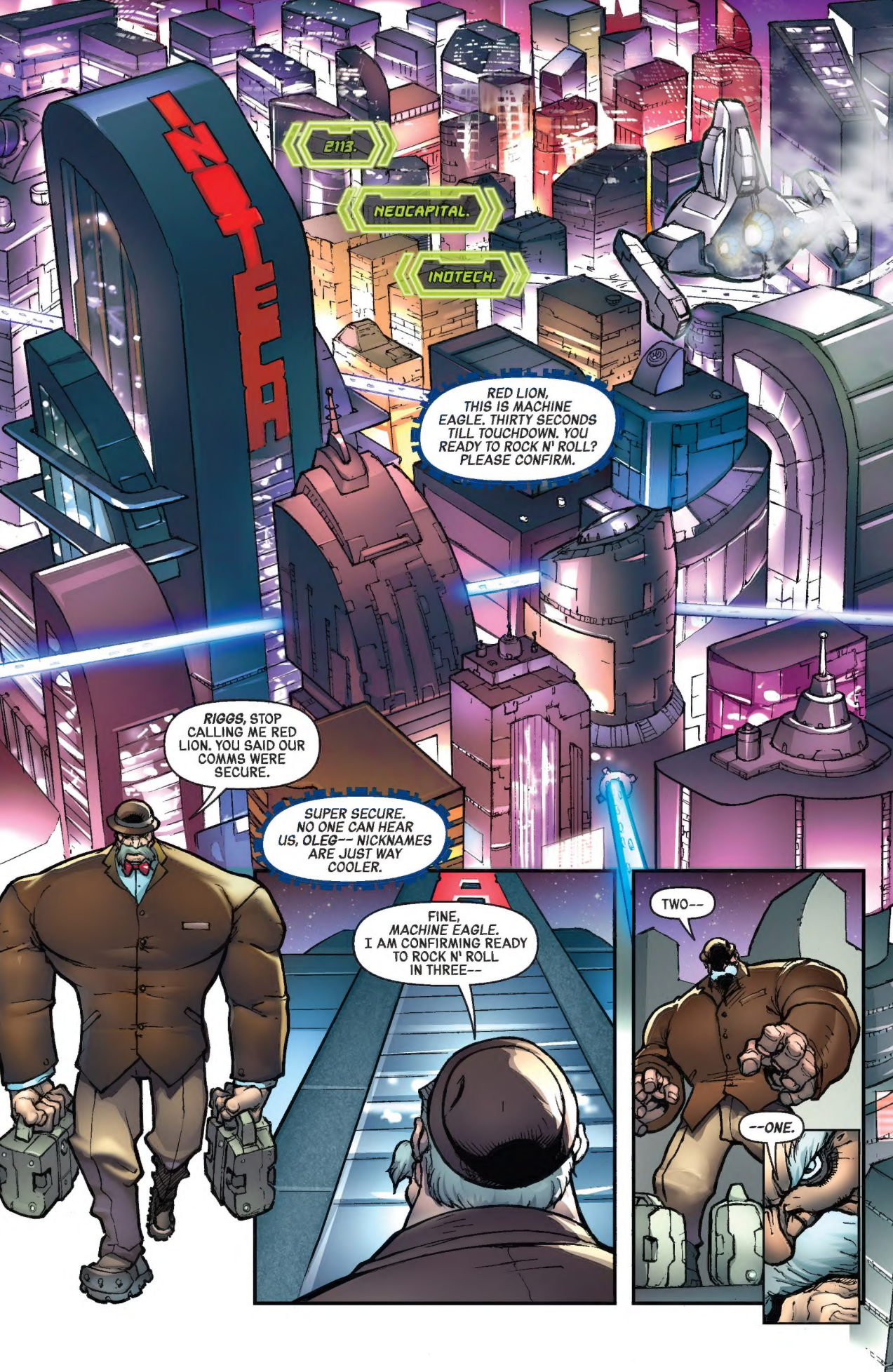

2113.
NEOCAPITAL.
INOTECH.
RED LION, THIS IS MACHINE EAGLE. THIRTY SECONDS TILL TOUCHDOWN. YOU READY TO ROCK N' ROLL? PLEASE CONFIRM.
RIGGS, STOP CALLING ME RED LION. YOU SAID OUR COMMS WERE SECURE.
SUPER SECURE. NO ONE CAN HEAR US, OLEG-- NICKNAMES ARE JUST WAY COOLER.
FINE, MACHINE EAGLE. I AM CONFIRMING READY TO ROCK N' ROLL IN THREE--
TWO--
--ONE.

TSSS

TSSS

TSSS

DISTRACTION COMMENCED MY FRIENDS. THESE SECURITY DRONES ARE NOTHING MORE THAN INSECTS.

LOOKS LIKE THE POLICE ARE RESPONDING FASTER THAN WE ANTICIPATED.

SHOULD I MOVE MY WAY UP NOW?

KRAA-KOOOOOM

NO. IT'S NO PROBLEMO, OLEG. I'LL BUY MORE TIME BY ROUTING THEM TO ANOTHER BUILDING. STICK TO THE PLAN.

BEEP

AAAND OPEN.

BEEP BEEP

WE'RE IN. SHOULDN'T BE MUCH LONGER NOW.

CAPRICE... YOU'RE UP.

KSSSSH

STOP. THIS IS A SECURED LEVEL--
BAP
BAP
BAP
BAP
WE PLANNED THIS. WELL... MORE LIKE *SHE* DID... MY *OLDER SISTER.*
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO BE HERE! YOU AND YOUR *PUNK* FRIENDS ARE IN A WORLD OF TROUBLE.
PING
PING
PING
WE'RE IN THE PROFESSION OF "COMPETITIVE INTELLIGENCE."
TROUBLE?
WE MIGHT LOOK LIKE A RAGTAG TEAM OF *HACKERS* BUT...
DZZT
DZZT
DZZT
NO TROUBLE.
...NEVER JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER.
TTSSSSSSSS
STOP IT! THE POLICE ARE ON THEIR WAY!

DON'T YOU--
KRAAK
BZZT BZZT
DO YOU KNOW HOW PRETTY YOUR EYES ARE?
ACCESS GRANTED. CONFIRMED: MISS GATES.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION, MISS GATES.
EVERYTHING HAS BEEN METICULOUSLY THOUGHT OUT.
ZZTT ZZZTT

THE "I's" DOTTED AND THE "T's" CROSSED... ALL THANKS TO MY SISTER, *DEVYN.* SHE'S THE BRAINS OF THE OPERATIONS.
AND ME... I'M NOT THE BRAWN.
I'M SIMPLY THE *NEW GIRL.*
I DON'T KNOW HOW SHE DOES IT. THE CALCULATIONS. THE PATIENCE.
RIGGS. BRING THE TRANSPORT.
IT'S NOT FOR ME...
OLEG... IT'S TIME TO GO. MEET US AT THE--
BOOM

...I HATE PATIENCE.
WE'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE.
SORRY, CAPRICE. THIS IS OUR SHOW NOW.
BLARGH-- I HATE MY TRAINING GUN.
BUT IT GETS THE JOB DONE.
SPLAM
THWAP
ROMAN, MOLLI, STOP!
ONE CLICK AND THE PACKAGE GOES BYE-BYE.
YOU WOULDN'T.
TRY ME B#☆@H. WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP ME?

BZZZZZZT
BZZZZZZT
BECAUSE YOU'VE GOTTEN SLOPPY, CAPRICE.
HELL YEAH! THAT'S MY SIS, DEVYN.
NOT ONLY THE BRAINS... SHE HAS ALL THE BEST FAMILY GENES TOO.
RIGGS, COME IN. COPS ARE ON THEIR WAY. WHAT'S GOING ON UP THERE?
HAD EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL. PLUS... I KNEW YOU WERE THERE.
WHAT HAPPENED TO BUBBLE-GUNNING THEM BOTH, MOLLI? I WON'T ALWAYS HAVE YOUR BACK, YOU KNOW.

WE'RE GOING TO GET CAUGHT! RIGGS-- PULL ME OUT!
DEVYN, ROMAN, MOLLI! LET'S GO! WE HAVE TO MOVE!
WE'RE ON OUR WAY.
MOLLI-- TIME'S UP! JUMP ON.
DEVYN'S TOP RULE: WHEN THE TIMER HITS ZERO... DROP EVERYTHING AND LEAVE.
WHAT ARE YOU-- WE HAVE TO BE GONE. NOW!
ONE SEC!
YEAH... RIGHT.
MOLLI!!
WHAT? YOU'RE GOING TO SHOOT ME WITH YOUR TOY?
YOU KNOW, I COULD HAUL YOUR BUTT OUT AND TURN YOU IN, BUT...
...YOU AREN'T EVEN WORTH THE BOUNTY ON YOUR HEAD.
MY RULE: KICK A MAN WHEN HE'S DOWN, AS MANY TIMES AND AS HARD AS YOU CAN.

I LOVE MY JOB.
GOT YOU!
MOLLI, DON'T PULL THAT S&T ANYMO--- WAIT!
ROMAN!! YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BLOW UP THE BUILDING ARE YOU!?!
NO. SOMETHING BETTER---
CLICK
---I JUST BLEW THEIR MINDS!
F@#K! MACHINE EAGLE?!
WEEEE-OOOOHH WEEE-OOOOH
CUTTING IT TOO CLOSE. WE SHOULD LAY LOW FOR A LIL' BIT.
SCREW THAT. LET'S GO CELEBRATE!
WELL DONE TEAM!
YOUR BIGGEST GRAB YET. HOW IS EVERYONE?
NO ONE'S HURT, ZUSE...

"ON OUR WAY TO DROP OFF *THE PACKAGE* NOW, BUT WE'RE NOT STAYING LONG...

"...WE'RE GOING OUT TO CELEBRATE!"

CHEERS!

WE ROCK! PAYDAY IS OURS!

I HAVE TO HAND IT TO YOU, DEVYN. I HAD MY DOUBTS ABOUT THIS JOB, BUT YOU REALLY PULLED IT OFF.

WE PULLED IT OFF. ALMOST ACCORDING TO PLAN.

AND THE BEST PART...CAPRICE AND HER GANG ARE TAKING THE FALL.

I HOPE THE POLICE ARE SLAMMING HER STUPID FACE INTO CELL BARS RIGHT NOW.

MOLLI, YOU GOT SOME BALLS TALKING SMACK TO CAPRICE LIKE THAT.

SHE NEEDS TO KNOW SHE AIN'T SO SPECIAL. I'M TIRED OF THEM GETTING TO JOBS BEFORE US.

NOT ANYMORE. ONCE WE CASH IN THE PACKAGE, THERE'LL BE MONEY FOR NEW EQUIPMENT AND FINALLY EXTRA FOR OUR FIVE-WAY SPLIT.

YEAH! WE CAN FINALLY AFFORD SOME NEW GEAR. I'M TIRED OF MY HAND- ME-DOWN SUIT. AND WHEN DO I GET A *REAL* GUN?

LISTEN UP, MOLLI. YOU'RE MY SISTER, BUT YOU JOINED *MY* CREW. *MY* PLANS, *MY* RULES. DON'T PULL THAT GUNG-HO STUFF ANYMORE.

THERE'S NO ROOM FOR MISTAKES. WE NEED TO HAVE EACH OTHER'S BACKS. AND I WON'T ALWAYS BE THERE TO COVER YOURS.

YOU THINK YOU'RE READY FOR A *REAL* GUN? SHOW ME YOU'RE A GROWN UP FIRST.

WOOPS. DIDN'T KNOW *MOM* WAS IN CHARGE OF US.

CAPRICE COULD HAVE BLOWN UP THE PACKAGE! SHE COULD HAVE TAKEN US ALL OUT!

YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU--

TIME TO PAY OFF OUR TAB, DON'T YOU THINK, DEVYN?

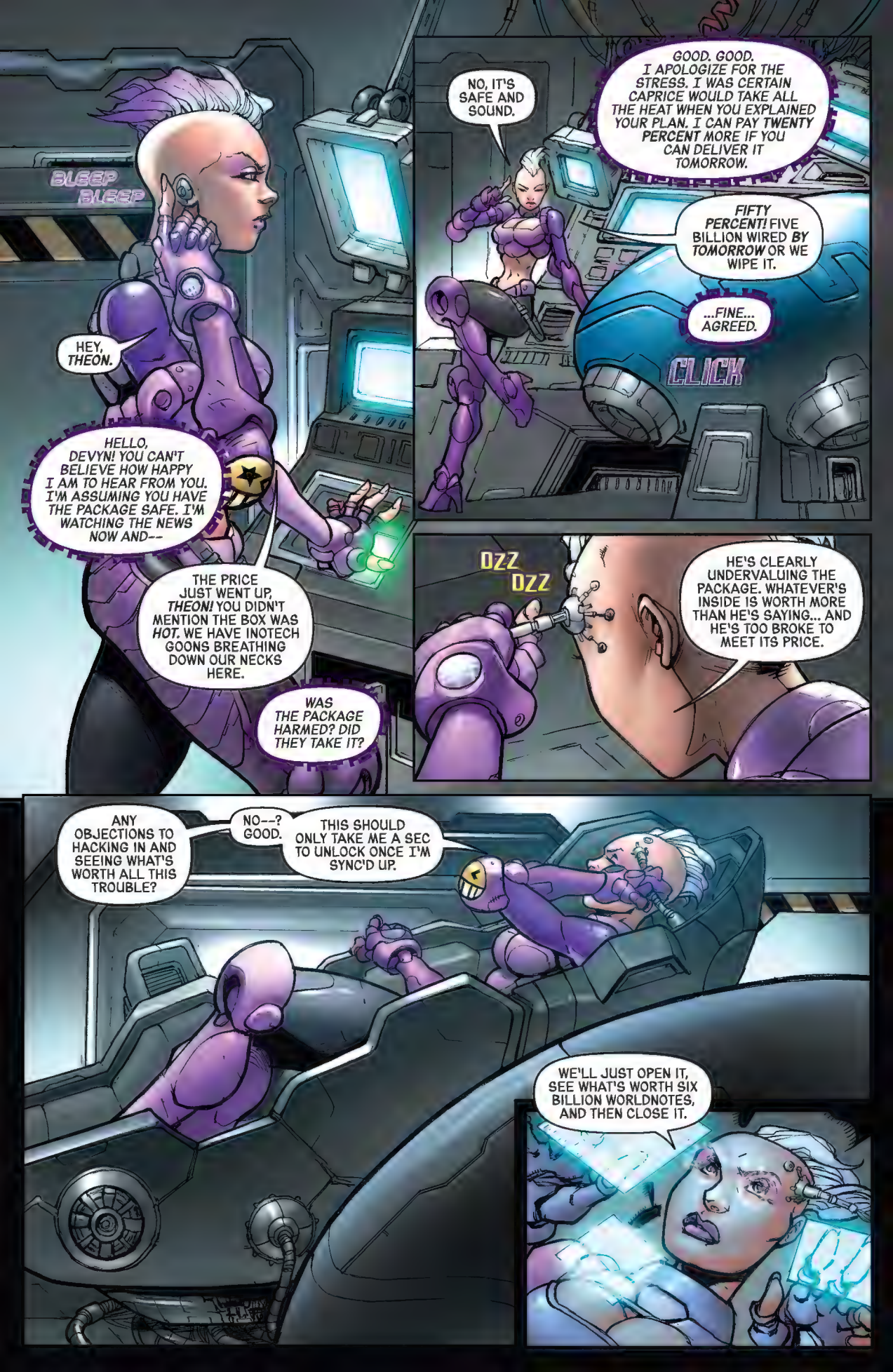
YOUR ALCOHOL LEVEL IS ONLY AT .05 PERCENT. WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE ANOTHER?
NO. WE'RE COOL RIGHT NOW.
SHE SHOOTS HER MOUTH OFF MORE THAN THE GUN I GAVE HER.
WHERE DOES SHE GET OFF CALLING ME MOM? EXCUUUSE ME FOR BEING RESPONSIBLE AND CAUTIOUS SO WE ALL DON'T DIE. SO STUPID. SHE'S TOO COCKY.
YOU'RE BEING A LITTLE HARD ON HER. SHE'S CONFIDENT... WHICH IS A GOOD THING.
SAYS THE GUY IN LOVE WITH HER.
W-WHAT--?! I AM NOT.
OH PLEASE. TRUST ME, KYO. I CAN TELL.
DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.
IS IT THAT OBVIOUS?

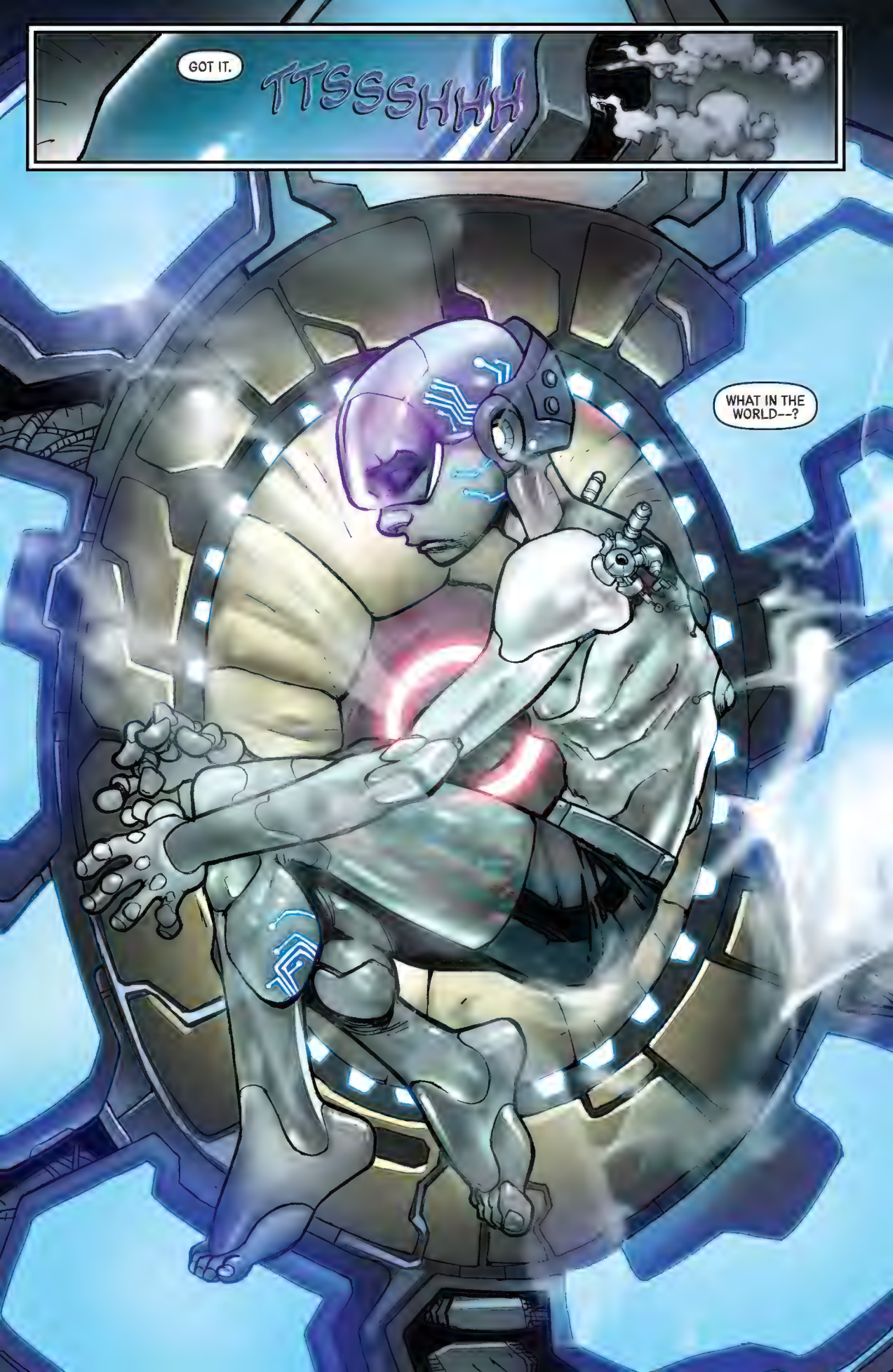
NO. YOU'RE ACTUALLY HIDING IT WELL, BUT I STARTED NOTICING THE LITTLE THINGS. LIKE... YOU'VE BEEN DOING A LOT OF FAVORS FOR HER, PAYING FOR THINGS, AND FIXING HER HOVERBIKE.
PLUS THERE'S THE WAY YOU LOOK AT HER WHEN SHE ISN'T LOOKING BACK AT YOU. YEA... YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT.
HNN. MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT.
I AM BEING TOO HARD ON HER. BUT SHE NEEDS IT. SHE NEEDS SOMEONE TO KEEP HER GROUNDED.
SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
YOU'RE A GREAT GUY, KYO. YOU SHOULD MAN UP AND ASK HER OUT. I MEAN IT. JUST TELL HER HOW YOU FEEL.
NOT ALL THINGS COME AS EASY TO SOME PEOPLE AS THEY DO FOR YOU, DEVYN.
WHATEVER.
BARTENDER. WE'D LIKE TO CLOSE OUR TAB... ALL OF IT, PLEASE.
YOUR TAB HAS BEEN PAID OFF. ACCOUNT BALANCE ZERO.
PAID? BY WHO?

BY CRAINE DROW.
HELLO, DEVYN... KYO. I WAS JUST TELLING YOUR FRIENDS HERE THAT YOUR TAB IS PAID FOR, COMPLIMENTS OF VITADRONE.
MY EMPLOYER WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR SUCCESSFUL HEIST FROM INOTECH TONIGHT, AND MAKE YOU A COUNTER OFFER.
YOU AND YOUR EMPLOYER ARE MISTAKEN-- IT WASN'T US.
AND THANK YOU, BUT WE PAY OUR OWN DEBTS.

THAT'S A SHAME IT WASN'T YOUR TEAM.
MY EMPLOYER WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION CAPRICE AND HER TEAM WERE THE BEST MONEY COULD BUY.
I WANTED TO APPLAUD YOU FOR *ONE-UPPING* THEM.
CAPRICE AIN'T SQUAT!
WELL, THEN...
...IF YOU KNOW OF WHOM THE BEST IS...
...LET THEM KNOW *VITADRONE* IS WILLING TO PAY *DOUBLE* THE INITIAL BARGAIN PRICE.
HOW MUCH DID YOUR EMPLOYER OFFER YOU? HMM?
NO EMPLOYER. JUST GOOD FRIENDS ENJOYING A NIGHT OUT.
OF COURSE. MY EMPLOYER ALSO APPRECIATES *DISCRETION.*
IF YOU FIND OUT WHO MIGHT HAVE *ACQUIRED* THE INOTECH PACKAGE, TELL THEM TO GIVE *ME* A CALL.
CONTACT ACCEPTED.
HAVE A GOOD NIGHT AND CONSIDER THE TAB DEBT A GIFT FROM VITADRONE. ENJOY YOUR CELEBRATION-- NIGHT OUT, RATHER.

DOUBLE THE OFFER HE SAID, ZUSE! OVER *SIX BILLION WORLDNOTES*...
...THAT'S RIDICULOUS MONEY! WE'D BE STUPID *NOT* TO CALL HIM.
COOL IT, ROMAN. THAT WAS CRAINE DROW-- NOT SOME PUNKASS *WIRE BUG.*
AND WE CARE BECAUSE...?
CRAINE IS *VITADRONE'S* UNDERGROUND MUSCLE. BACK WHEN I WAS WORKING FOR THEIR DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, WE HAD A VERY IMPORTANT, VERY EXCLUSIVE CLOSED DOOR, CROSS-COMPANY MEETING WITH *ITHACORP.*
DRAZIC, VITADRONE'S *CHAIRMAN,* MADE AN EMBARRASSING OFFER TO PURCHASE ITHACORP AFTER TESTING THEIR PROTOTYPE SYNTHEZOID MODEL.
THEIR CHIEF ENGINEER LAUGHED AT THE OFFER AND SPIT ON DRAZIC'S SHOE. CRAINE WALKED UP TO HIM AND CRUSHED HIS WINDPIPE LIKE IT WAS A CANDY CANE... THEN MADE THE REMAINING MEMBERS SIGN OFF ON THE PURCHASE. NEEDLESS TO SAY, VITADRONE *ACQUIRED* ITHACORP AND NO ONE'S HEARD FROM ITS COUNCIL SINCE.
SO WE'RE JUST GOING TO SAY GOODBYE TO ALL THAT MONEY?
NO. WE'RE GOING TO EARN IT.
BLEEP BLEEP


BLEEP
BLEEP
HEY, THEON.
HELLO, DEVYN! YOU CAN'T BELIEVE HOW HAPPY I AM TO HEAR FROM YOU. I'M ASSUMING YOU HAVE THE PACKAGE SAFE. I'M WATCHING THE NEWS NOW AND--
THE PRICE JUST WENT UP, THEON! YOU DIDN'T MENTION THE BOX WAS HOT. WE HAVE INOTECH GOONS BREATHING DOWN OUR NECKS HERE.
WAS THE PACKAGE HARMED? DID THEY TAKE IT?
NO, IT'S SAFE AND SOUND.
GOOD. GOOD. I APOLOGIZE FOR THE STRESS. I WAS CERTAIN CAPRICE WOULD TAKE ALL THE HEAT WHEN YOU EXPLAINED YOUR PLAN. I CAN PAY TWENTY PERCENT MORE IF YOU CAN DELIVER IT TOMORROW.
FIFTY PERCENT! FIVE BILLION WIRED BY TOMORROW OR WE WIPE IT.
...FINE... AGREED.
CLICK
DZZ
DZZ
HE'S CLEARLY UNDERVALUING THE PACKAGE. WHATEVER'S INSIDE IS WORTH MORE THAN HE'S SAYING... AND HE'S TOO BROKE TO MEET ITS PRICE.
ANY OBJECTIONS TO HACKING IN AND SEEING WHAT'S WORTH ALL THIS TROUBLE?
NO--? GOOD.
THIS SHOULD ONLY TAKE ME A SEC TO UNLOCK ONCE I'M SYNC'D UP.
WE'LL JUST OPEN IT, SEE WHAT'S WORTH SIX BILLION WORLDNOTES, AND THEN CLOSE IT.


GOT IT.
TTSSSHHH
WHAT IN THE WORLD--?

DRAZIC. YOU WERE RIGHT. THEY HAVE THE BOY. I'M SURE OF IT.
YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO...
...TRACK THEM, CRAINE.
I NEED THAT BOY AT ANY COST.
To Be Continued In... BubbleGun ISSUE #2

I'm a *huge* fan of science fiction, and I suspect *you* are too.

By Mark Roslan

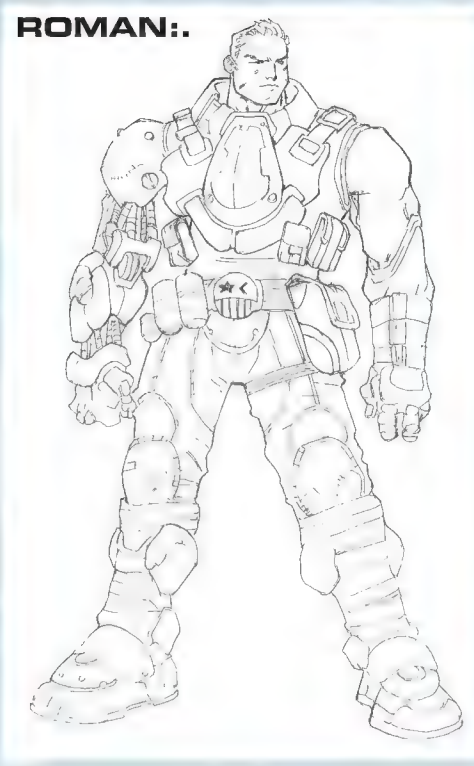
Sketches by series artist, Mike Bowden

I grew up reading and watching anything and everything science fiction. I loved the aspect of imagining the future— The notion of things to come and the possibilities of what time may bring. And while I'm a huge fan, I know that there are people out there that think science fiction is silly and ridiculous, but I assure you, it can't be. I believe everyone is a fan of science fiction, whether they want to admit to it or not. I don't think it takes too much imagination or disbelief when you really think about it. It's the possibility of things to come. Innovation. It takes some open-mindedness, but consider this: What if I told you you'll be able to touch a piece of plastic and be with someone in a distant land? It happens today with your cell phone. Forty years ago a cell phone was unthinkable. Technology is everywhere today and it is thriving. Your children, grandchildren, and/or great grandchildren are going to wonder how you managed to live without whatever the latest gadget is. Science will grow, and continue to grow exponentially-- and we will grow along with it. It's inevitable.

BubbleGun's story takes place in the future, but the characters and context of the story still hold true regardless of the time setting. The imaginary elements it presents are not out of reach of scientifically established laws, and its characters could very well be in modern day times-- but where is the fun in that? I really wanted to tell a cyberpunk story where my imagination could run wild— A society where artificial intelligence, cybernetic prosthetics, and digitally projected tangible objects were common day occurrences. I felt like there wasn't enough of this in comic books today. When comic books started showing up in movie theatres, their printed counterparts started taking a more serious and realistic take on our favorite heroes. I want to get back to the fun and adventurous side and hopefully make you as huge of a fan of science fiction as I am.

The Year is 2113. The world is fast paced. Cities infused with Technology. Imagine the bright colors, crazy fashion, projected billboards, neon lights, advanced robots, and flying vehicles amid a society where information is more valuable than money. Devyn, Zuse, Roman, Kyo and Molli are a team of cyber mercenary thieves that take on the most formidable jobs without fear.

I originally started with a team of three, but that team quickly grew to five. Each character in BubbleGun has his or her own distinctive characteristics and personality and I hope you will find, as I have, a little piece of yourself in each one of them.



DEVYN:
Devyn is the leader of the team and rightfully so. She's smart, ambitious, and crafty. She methodically puts together the team's missions with the help and wisdom of her mentor, Zuse. She has a purple and silver Mohawk that lets her easily access the data ports implanted into the side of her cranium. She is the woman that has it all together. Whether they admit it or not, the team counts on her.

ZUSE:
Zuse is the team's mentor. He's had his fair share of adventure and now spends his time making sure the team stays alive, but from a comfy chair back at home base. He is a wise man with a mysterious past. He's learned many things along the way and hopes to help Devyn and Molli learn from his past mistakes.

MOLLI:
The youngest and newest member to the team, Molli is Devyn's little sister who no longer stays at home base with Zuse, but finally gets to go out on field missions and prove her worth. She's energetic, cocky, stubborn and fearless. Her devil-may-care attitude brings a new dynamic to the team, one that Devyn hopes she'll grow out of.

ROMAN:
Roman is the headstrong bruiser of the team. He leads the charge and loves every minute of it, working well along side Molli's carefree attitude. He's seen his fair share of danger in his past. Roman's right arm is completely cybernetic, which might have been implanted by necessity. He recognizes Devyn's brilliance, and her smarts help to keep him out of jail.

KYO:
Kyo is the quiet, soft-spoken member of the team. He tends to be the voice of reason when an argument breaks out. Kyo's passion is with machinery and he naturally fell into this type of work because of it. He also holds the roll of the team's pilot.

Each member of the team brings something special to the dynamics.

These cyber mercenary thieves are great at what they do, but even they aren't prepared for what they've stumbled into. As you've just discovered, the team has hacked open a potential Pandora's box-- a new technological breakthrough that could very well be a reality in our foreseeable future. Hopefully your imagination is already concocting what the BubbleGun team has revealed, and that the science fiction lover inside of you is growing in anticipation for next issue's romping adventure. So keep an open mind and join Mike Bowden, David Curiel, and myself on this wild ride, and we'll see where it takes us. We're just getting started!

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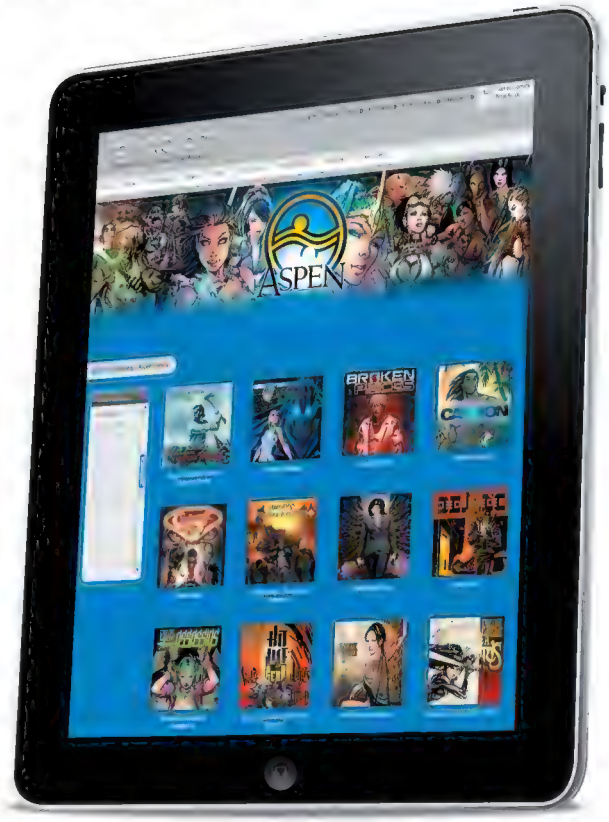

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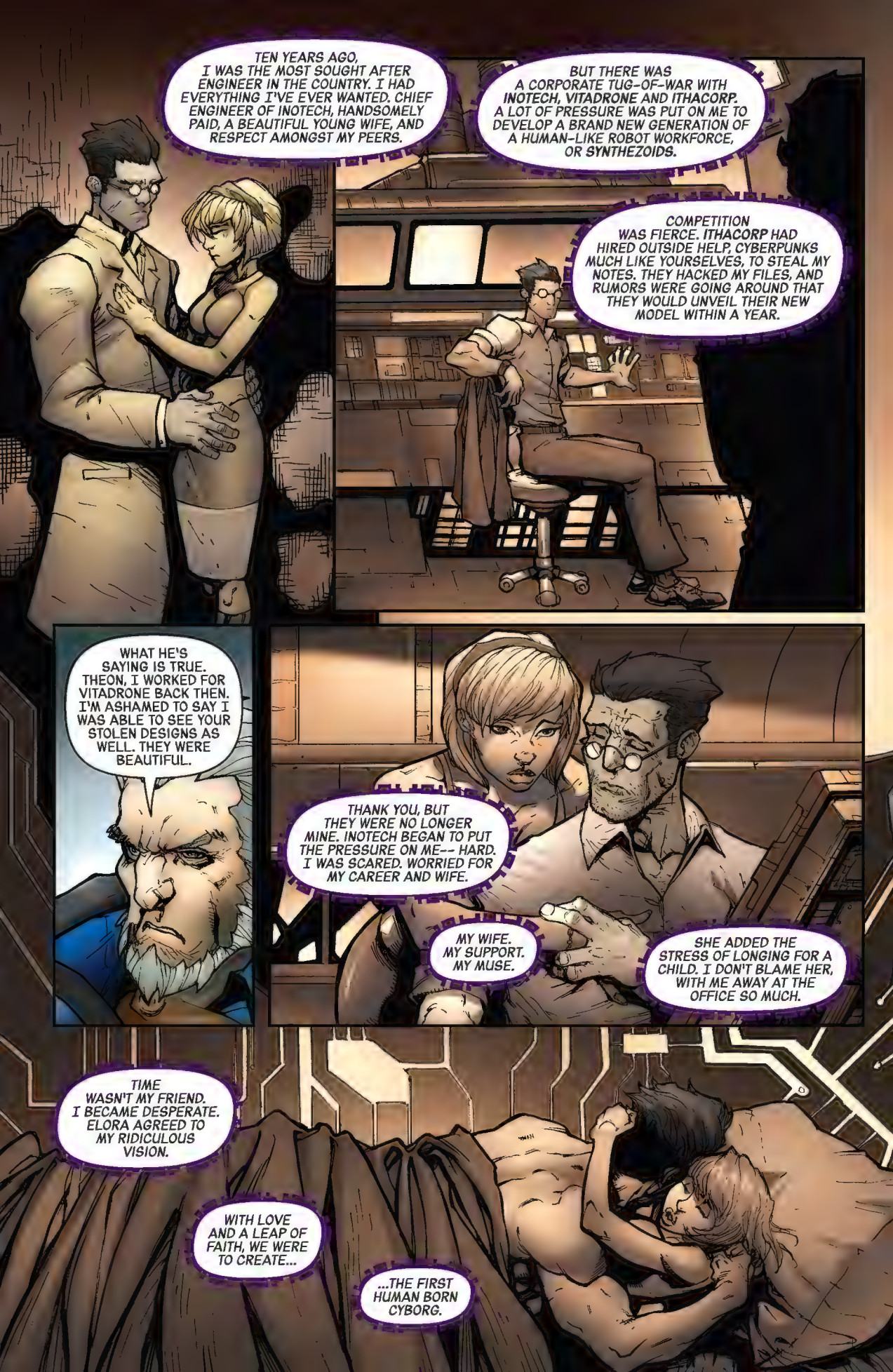
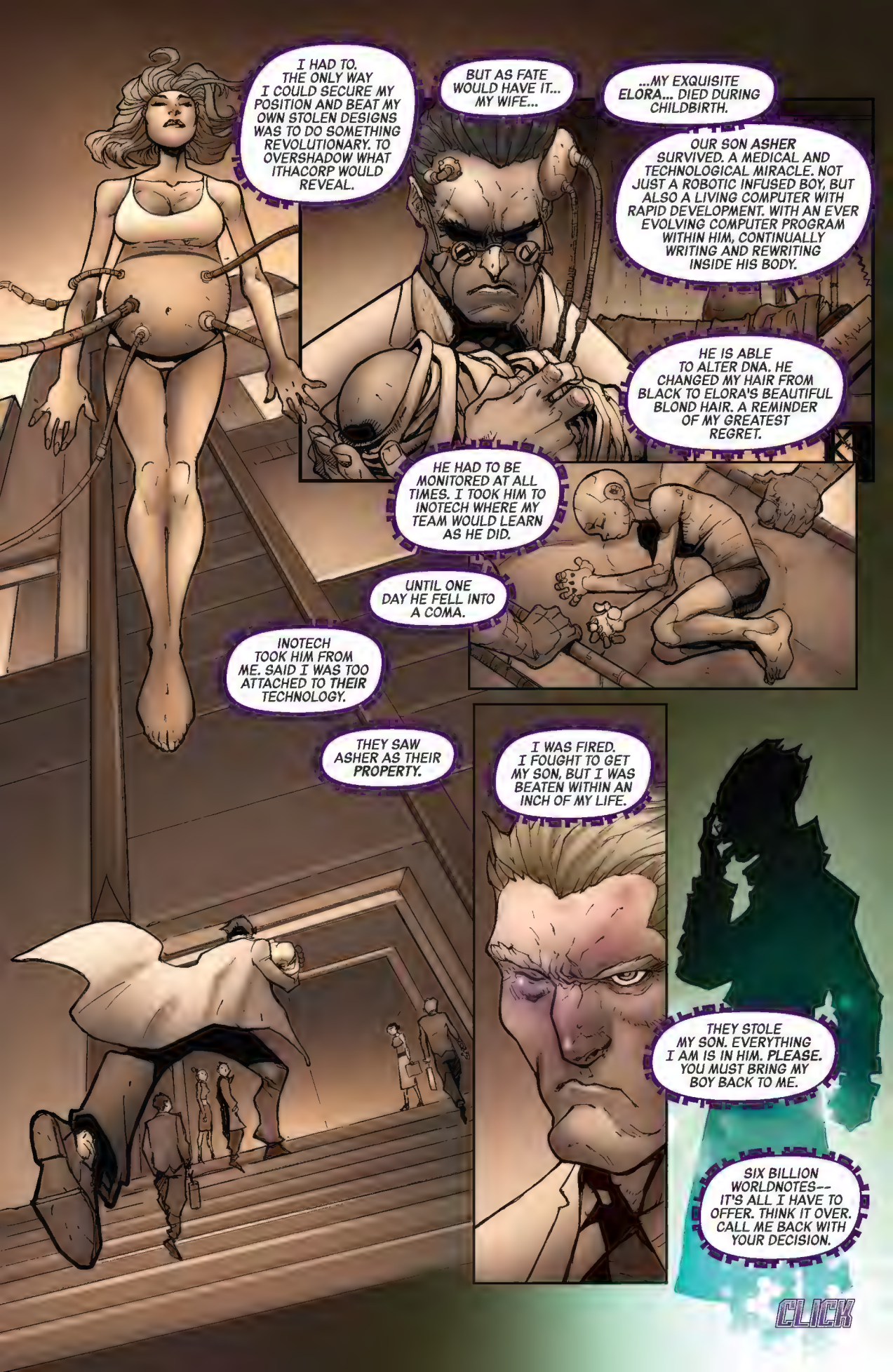
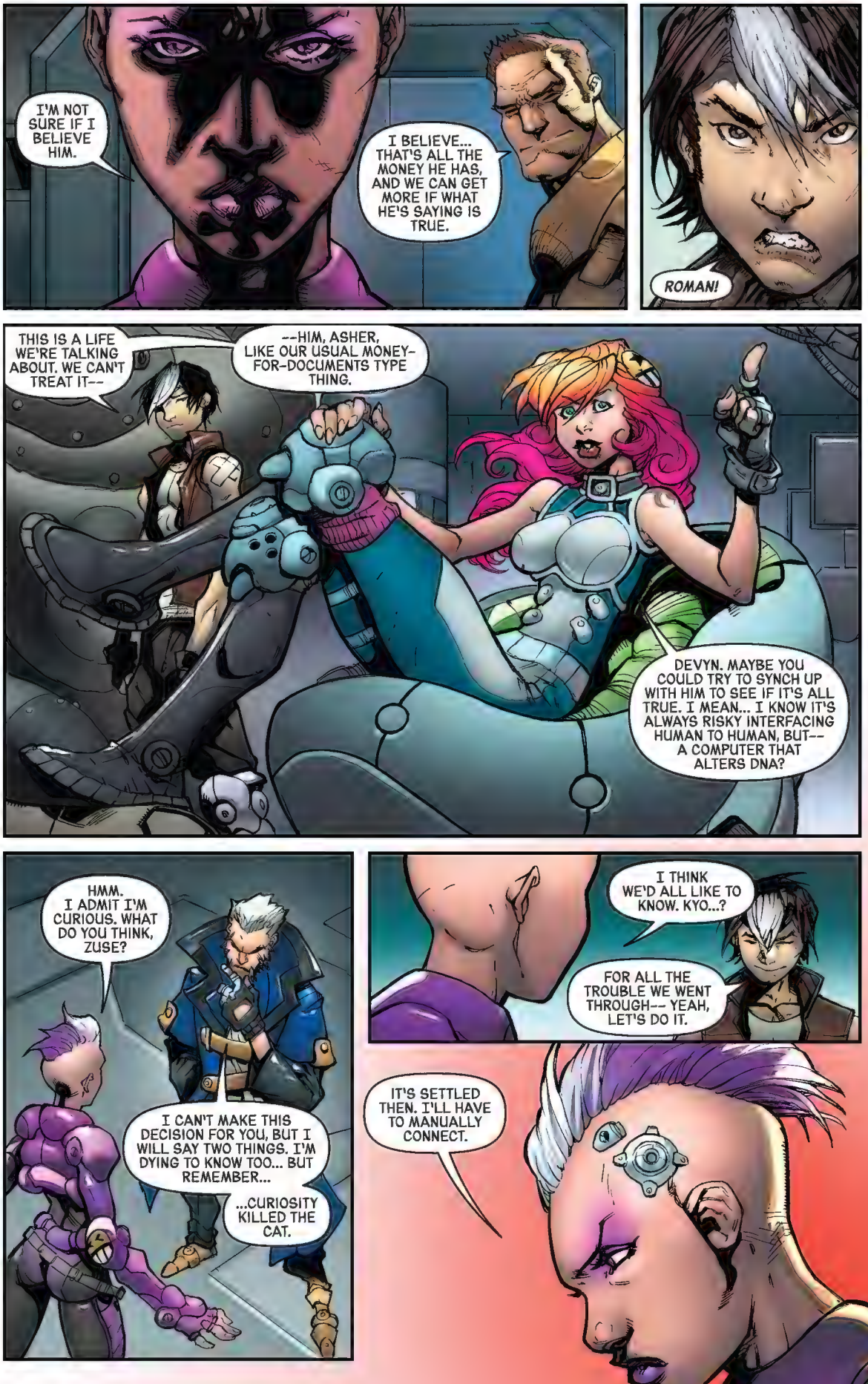
WOW.
I WAS NOT EXPECTING TO ADD KIDNAPPING TO OUR RAP SHEET.
OMIGOD. OMIGOD. OMIGOD.
YOU THINK HE'S SOME SORT OF SUPER- CYBORG? HE'S BREATHING... RIGHT? IS IT EVEN HUMAN?
PLEASE BE ALIVE.
LOOKS ALIVE TO ME. MAYBE HE'S JUST A REALLY EXPENSIVE HARD DRIVE.
THIS, I'M GUESSING, DEVYN DID *NOT* PLAN.
WHO-- WHATEVER HE IS, BOY OR HARD DRIVE, I'M SURE OUR BUYER KNOWS ALL ABOUT HIM.
AND PROBABLY KNOWS HIS *WORTH* ON THE BLACK MARKET.
HOLD ON... WE WERE JUST GOING TO CHECK IT OUT.
PLANS CHANGE, KYO.
THIS *CYBERBOY* IS JUST TOO DAMN FANCY... HE WAS KEPT A SECRET FOR A REASON.
I AGREE. LET'S GET SOME ANSWERS.

HELLO, THEON! YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO.
BLEEP BLEEP
YOU HAD US BREAK INTO INOTECH, STEAL A *"PACKAGE,"* MAKE THE TRAIL DISAPPEAR, ONLY TO HAVE *RIVAL* VITADRONE'S LACKEY, *CRAINE,* FIND US AND OFFER *THREE TIMES* WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD.
ON TOP OF THAT, WE WEREN'T SNAGGING SOME ENCRYPTED DATA BITS. NO... WE JUST STOLE A *CYBORG BOY,* THE LIKES OF WHICH I'VE *NEVER* SEEN!
WAIT-- YOU'VE OPENED THE PACKAGE?!
HE HAS GLOWING VEINS FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE!
YOU'VE GOT ONE MINUTE TO EXPLAIN YOURSELF BEFORE ROMAN HERE CHOPS THIS BOY'S PARTS AND MAKES HIM DISAPPEAR INTO THE BLACK MARKET.
PLEASE, GOD, NO! I'LL EXPLAIN... I'LL EXPLAIN.


TEN YEARS AGO, I WAS THE MOST SOUGHT AFTER ENGINEER IN THE COUNTRY. I HAD EVERYTHING I'VE EVER WANTED. CHIEF ENGINEER OF INOTECH, HANDSOMELY PAID, A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WIFE, AND RESPECT AMONGST MY PEERS.
BUT THERE WAS A CORPORATE TUG-OF-WAR WITH INOTECH, VITADRONE AND ITHACORP. A LOT OF PRESSURE WAS PUT ON ME TO DEVELOP A BRAND NEW GENERATION OF A HUMAN-LIKE ROBOT WORKFORCE, OR SYNTHEZOIDS.
COMPETITION WAS FIERCE. ITHACORP HAD HIRED OUTSIDE HELP, CYBERPUNKS MUCH LIKE YOURSELVES, TO STEAL MY NOTES. THEY HACKED MY FILES, AND RUMORS WERE GOING AROUND THAT THEY WOULD UNVEIL THEIR NEW MODEL WITHIN A YEAR.
WHAT HE'S SAYING IS TRUE. THEON, I WORKED FOR VITADRONE BACK THEN. I'M ASHAMED TO SAY I WAS ABLE TO SEE YOUR STOLEN DESIGNS AS WELL. THEY WERE BEAUTIFUL.
THANK YOU, BUT THEY WERE NO LONGER MINE. INOTECH BEGAN TO PUT THE PRESSURE ON ME-- HARD. I WAS SCARED. WORRIED FOR MY CAREER AND WIFE.
MY WIFE. MY SUPPORT. MY MUSE.
SHE ADDED THE STRESS OF LONGING FOR A CHILD. I DON'T BLAME HER, WITH ME AWAY AT THE OFFICE SO MUCH.
TIME WASN'T MY FRIEND. I BECAME DESPERATE. ELORA AGREED TO MY RIDICULOUS VISION.
WITH LOVE AND A LEAP OF FAITH, WE WERE TO CREATE...
...THE FIRST HUMAN BORN CYBORG.


I HAD TO. THE ONLY WAY I COULD SECURE MY POSITION AND BEAT MY OWN STOLEN DESIGNS WAS TO DO SOMETHING REVOLUTIONARY. TO OVERSHADOW WHAT ITHACORP WOULD REVEAL.
BUT AS FATE WOULD HAVE IT... MY WIFE...
...MY EXQUISITE ELORA... DIED DURING CHILDBIRTH.
OUR SON ASHER SURVIVED. A MEDICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL MIRACLE. NOT JUST A ROBOTIC INFUSED BOY, BUT ALSO A LIVING COMPUTER WITH RAPID DEVELOPMENT. WITH AN EVER EVOLVING COMPUTER PROGRAM WITHIN HIM, CONTINUALLY WRITING AND REWRITING INSIDE HIS BODY.
HE IS ABLE TO ALTER DNA. HE CHANGED MY HAIR FROM BLACK TO ELORA'S BEAUTIFUL BLOND HAIR. A REMINDER OF MY GREATEST REGRET.
HE HAD TO BE MONITORED AT ALL TIMES. I TOOK HIM TO INOTECH WHERE MY TEAM WOULD LEARN AS HE DID.
UNTIL ONE DAY HE FELL INTO A COMA.
INOTECH TOOK HIM FROM ME. SAID I WAS TOO ATTACHED TO THEIR TECHNOLOGY.
THEY SAW ASHER AS THEIR PROPERTY.
I WAS FIRED. I FOUGHT TO GET MY SON, BUT I WAS BEATEN WITHIN AN INCH OF MY LIFE.
THEY STOLE MY SON. EVERYTHING I AM IS IN HIM. PLEASE. YOU MUST BRING MY BOY BACK TO ME.
SIX BILLION WORLDNOTES-- IT'S ALL I HAVE TO OFFER. THINK IT OVER. CALL ME BACK WITH YOUR DECISION.
CLICK


I'M NOT SURE IF I BELIEVE HIM.
I BELIEVE... THAT'S ALL THE MONEY HE HAS, AND WE CAN GET MORE IF WHAT HE'S SAYING IS TRUE.
ROMAN!
THIS IS A LIFE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT. WE CAN'T TREAT IT--
--HIM, ASHER, LIKE OUR USUAL MONEY-FOR-DOCUMENTS TYPE THING.
DEVYN. MAYBE YOU COULD TRY TO SYNCH UP WITH HIM TO SEE IF IT'S ALL TRUE. I MEAN... I KNOW IT'S ALWAYS RISKY INTERFACING HUMAN TO HUMAN, BUT-- A COMPUTER THAT ALTERS DNA?
HMM. I ADMIT I'M CURIOUS. WHAT DO YOU THINK, ZUSE?
I CAN'T MAKE THIS DECISION FOR YOU, BUT I WILL SAY TWO THINGS. I'M DYING TO KNOW TOO... BUT REMEMBER...
...CURIOSITY KILLED THE CAT.
I THINK WE'D ALL LIKE TO KNOW. KYO...?
FOR ALL THE TROUBLE WE WENT THROUGH-- YEAH, LET'S DO IT.
IT'S SETTLED THEN. I'LL HAVE TO MANUALLY CONNECT.

PLEASE HAND ME THE CAT-30 CABLE.
BE CAREFUL.
I WOULDN'T BE MUCH OF A HACKER IF I CAN'T GET INTO A SEVEN YEAR OLD'S HEAD.
NOT TOO DIFFICULT OF A FIREWALL HERE. I'M...
...I'M IN... AND...
...WOW! I REALLY WISH YOU GUYS COULD SEE WHAT I'M SEEING RIGHT NOW. IT'S LIKE A DATA MATRIX OF CODING THAT MAKES ME WANT TO CRY. IT'S SO BEAUTIFUL. THERE IS A LOT OF INOTECH FILES AND SOME ABANDONED PROJECTS THEON WAS WORKING ON, AND...
I FOUND IT. IT'S... IT'S... AMAZING!
THERE'S DNA SEQUENCING FOR EVERYTHING. HE'S CONSTANTLY ARRANGING MULTIPLE STRANDS--
--AND NOW I THINK HE'S SHOWING ME MY OWN.
ARE YOU COPYING THE FILES? ALL THE DATA?
I CAN REWRITE MY OWN DNA! I CAN...
...I CAN...
...IT STINGS-- BUT IN A GOOD ITCH KIND OF WAY.

IT'S INCREDIBLE. HIS ABILITIES ARE ENDLESS.
THIS IS BEYOND BELIEF!
ARE YOU COPYING THE DATA OVER OR NOT?!
DEVYN! LISTEN TO ME. ARE YOU TRANSFERRING THE PROGRAM?!
YES, ROMAN. FULLY COPIED TO OUR SERVER.
ARE YOU SURE YOU HAVE IT ALL? ALL OF IT?
YES, I'M SURE--
PERFECT.
DEVYN!! WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING, ROMAN?!
DEVYN COULD BE BRAIN DEAD!
WORRY ABOUT...

...YOURSELVES!
NOOO--
AGGHH!
ROMAN PLEASE! THIS ISN'T YOU!
KRAAK
WRONG. WHEN HAVE I EVER *NOT* GONE FOR THE WIN?

YOU LOSERS HAVE BEEN HOLDING ME BACK FOR TOO LONG.
I'M GOING SOLO. AND THIS RO-BOY WILL MAKE ME RICH.
ROMAN! YOU DON'T WANT TO DO THIS. IT'S A MISTAKE.
I BELIEVE I DO. SORRY FOR THE LEG, KYO. CAN'T AFFORD YOU TRACKING ME DOWN.
NO HARD FEELINGS, RIGHT?
VRROOOMM
UGHH... MOLLI? YOU OK??
H--HUH? W-WHAT HAPPENED--?

NO... NO... NO! DEVYN!
HURRY, KYO. GET ME OUTTA HERE.
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO? DEVYN NEEDS US.
STAY WITH HER. SHE'LL BE OK.
PLEASE, DEVYN... PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME.
WAIT, WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?!
TO MAKE HIM PAY.

WHEN WE WERE VERY LITTLE, MY SISTER AND I WERE ATTACHED TO OUR PARENTS LIKE GLUE.

THEY WERE BOTH SOFTWARE ENGINEERS-- AND BOTH PHENOMENAL HACKERS.

THEY TAUGHT DEVYN EVERYTHING THEY KNEW. I WAS TOO YOUNG TO CARE.

IT WAS FUN AND GAMES, UNTIL ONE SUMMER NIGHT, MEN CHASED OUR FAMILY THROUGH THE PARK...

...AND TOOK OUR PARENTS. I WAS ELEVEN. DEVYN WAS SEVENTEEN.

COMPUTER. MOLLI OVERRIDE. PASS: 7727.

DEVYN AVOIDS TALKING ABOUT IT. HER WAY OF TRYING TO MAKE ME FORGET THAT NIGHT.

ELECTRO-GRIPS RELEASE. PNEUMATIC RELEASE, *NOW!*

WE HAVEN'T SEEN THEM IN SEVEN YEARS.

A LITTLE TRICK KYO TAUGHT ME-- BUT WAS NEVER STUPID ENOUGH TO TRY.

AAAAAGGH!

VRROOOOMM

WHAT?

WHOOOM

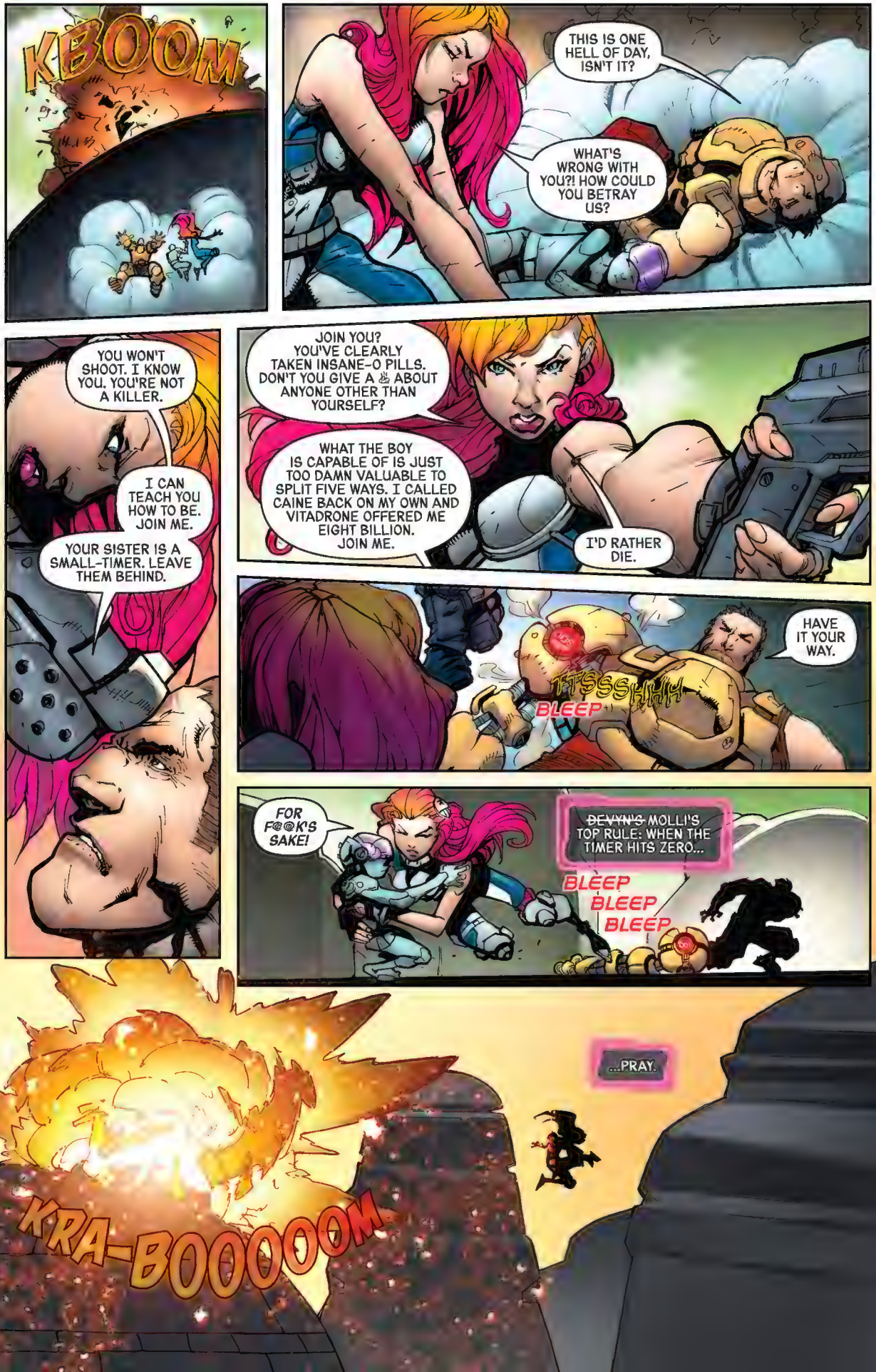
DEVYN SAYS I REMIND HER A LOT LIKE MOM.

YOU'RE ONE CRAZY CHICK!

AND YOU'RE ONE GIANT SACK OF ...!

HERE'S SOME MORE CRAZY FOR YOU!

YOU'RE GOING...
...TO GET US...
...KILLED!!
AHHHHHH!
CLICK


KBOOM
THIS IS ONE HELL OF DAY, ISN'T IT?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?! HOW COULD YOU BETRAY US?
YOU WON'T SHOOT. I KNOW YOU. YOU'RE NOT A KILLER.
I CAN TEACH YOU HOW TO BE. JOIN ME.
YOUR SISTER IS A SMALL-TIMER. LEAVE THEM BEHIND.
JOIN YOU? YOU'VE CLEARLY TAKEN INSANE-O PILLS. DON'T YOU GIVE A ☭ ABOUT ANYONE OTHER THAN YOURSELF?
WHAT THE BOY IS CAPABLE OF IS JUST TOO DAMN VALUABLE TO SPLIT FIVE WAYS. I CALLED CAINE BACK ON MY OWN AND VITADRONE OFFERED ME EIGHT BILLION. JOIN ME.
I'D RATHER DIE.
HAVE IT YOUR WAY.
TFSSSHHH
BLEEP
FOR F@@K'S SAKE!
~~DEVYN'S~~ MOLLI'S TOP RULE: WHEN THE TIMER HITS ZERO...
BLEEP
BLEEP
BLEEP
...PRAY.
KRA-BOOOOOM

GOTCHA!
WHAT ARE YOU--
--ARE YOU STUPID? I TOLD YOU TO STAY WITH DEVYN, PLUS YOU'RE SHOT AND DRIPPING BLOOD!
IT'S JUST A SCRATCH!
SMOOCH
WHAT WOULD I DO WITHOUT YOUR STUPID BUTT?
YEAH, YEAH. LET'S GET BACK.

UNBELIEVABLE. YOU BROUGHT THE BOY BACK IN ONE PIECE!
BUT NOT WITHOUT A PRICE, IT WOULD APPEAR.
YOU HAVE TO SAVE MY SISTER. *PLEASE!* REESTABLISH THE CONNECTION AND *WAKE* HER UP!
I HAVE TO SAY... IT WAS VERY RECKLESS OF YOU TO GO AFTER THAT BASTARD. HE COULD HAVE KILLED YOU.
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE. I'LL DO MY BEST, BUT IT WILL TAKE TIME. WE HAVE TO PROCEED WITH EXTREME CAUTION.
I WAS ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT ROMAN'S CHARACTER, BUT YOUR SISTER VOUCHED FOR HIM EVERY TIME. SHE BLAMED HIS MISGUIDED YOUTH-- THAT ALL HE NEEDED WAS STABILITY AND GOOD FRIENDS.
PLEASE TELL ME DEVYN IS GOING TO BE OKAY, OR I SWEAR TO GOD I'LL SHOVE A GRENADE DOWN HIS THROAT AND SPLIT HIM INTO EIGHT BILLION *CHUNKS.*
YEAH WELL, HE THREW ALL THAT AWAY. HE TRIED TO BLOW ME UP! I WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT IF KYO DIDN'T TRAIL US.
HE SAID VITADRONE OFFERED HIM EIGHT BILLION, AND HE WAS TIRED OF SPLITTING IT UP WITH US.
SHE'S ALIVE...
...BUT COULD BE LOST FOREVER IF WE DON'T ACT FAST.

VITADRONE HEADQUARTERS.
COMPUTER. UPLOAD STATUS.
100% COMPLETE. ARCHIVING FILES NOW.
YOU SEE? IT'S ALL THERE.
GREAT JOB, ROMAN. BUT BETRAYAL TO YOUR TEAM WAS A WASTE. YOU'RE MISSING THE BOY.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. I HAVE EVERYTHING HE WAS HOLDING. EVERYTHING YOU ASKED FOR!
WHAT MY ASSOCIATE CRAINE MEANS IS, IT'S NOT THE DATA BUT THE BOY HIMSELF THAT'S IMPORTANT. THE DATA IS USELESS WITHOUT HIM.
I HAVEN'T FAILED YET. I CAN STILL BE USEFUL. I'LL GET THE BOY.
THAT'S MY JOB NOW. UNLESS THAT'S A PROBLEM WITH YOU. HMM?
NO. NO, IT'S NOT. ATTACK AT WILL.
CRAINE. LEAVE FOR THE BOY NOW. WE'RE LOSING TIME.
ROMAN. YOUR WORK WITH US ISN'T DONE. I'LL NEED YOUR HELP TO BRING ABOUT A CHANGE TO THIS WORLD.
ONE THAT WILL CHANGE IT ALL.

YOU KNOW, ZUSE WAS RIGHT-- I WAS RECKLESS. JUST LIKE DEVYN WAS SAYING ALL ALONG.
HE DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY IT. HE WORRIES ABOUT YOU LIKE A DAUGHTER. BOTH OF YOU.
WHY DID I LEAVE?
I SHOULD HAVE STAYED WITH DEVYN. I RAN AFTER ROMAN INSTEAD OF STAYING BY MY SISTER'S SIDE. WHO KNOWS... I COULD HAVE TALKED TO HER, AND SHE MIGHT HAVE HEARD ME. I COULD HAVE SAID GOODBYE OR--
--HEY, HEY THERE'S NO GOODBYES TO BE SAID. ZUSE WILL GET HER BACK.

I'VE BEEN SITTING HERE THINKING OF EVERYTHING DEVYN'S SAID TO ME OVER THE YEARS... ALL THE FIGHTS AND FUN TIMES... AND SHE'S RIGHT. SHE'S *ALWAYS* BEEN RIGHT. TAKE HER OUT OF THE EQUATION AND I'M JUST A BRATTY LITTLE GIRL.
EVEN AT THE MOMENT WHEN SHE NEEDED ME MOST, I RAN AWAY.
THAT'S NOT TRUE, MOLLI. YOU DID WHAT YOU THOUGHT WAS BEST. YOU DIDN'T SECOND-GUESS THINGS. YOU THOUGHT OF GETTING THE CYBERBOY BACK TO RESTORE THEIR CONNECTION...
...BEFORE I COULD EVEN GRASP THE SITUATION.
WHAT YOU DID... WHILE NUTSO... WAS THE RIGHT DECISION. IN ZUSE'S HANDS, DEVYN HAS A CHANCE OF SNAPPING OUT OF HER COMA. BECAUSE YOU BROUGHT BACK THAT BOY. YOU BROUGHT HER THAT CHANCE.
MAYBE.
I'M SCARED. I CAN'T DO ALL THIS WITHOUT HER.
DON'T BE. I THINK YOU'RE JUST AS AMAZING AS DEVYN. EVEN MORE SO. I THINK YOU'RE--

THANKS! YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND, KYO!
YEAH.
IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY, MOLLI...
...THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
To Be Continued In...
BubbleGun
ISSUE #3

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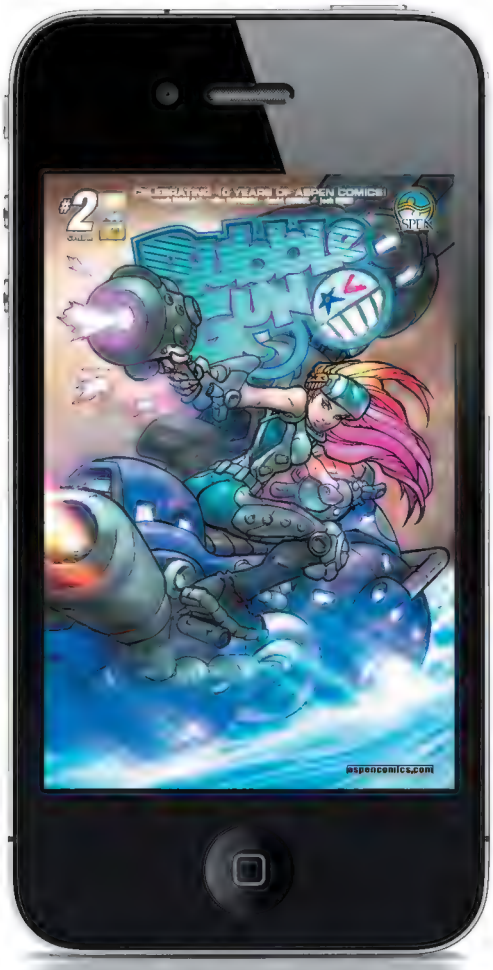

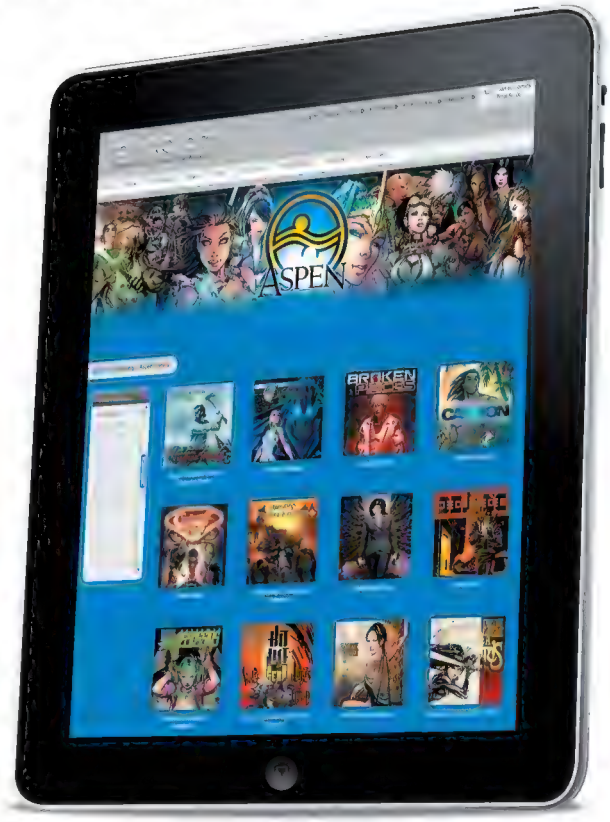

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#3
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10 FOR 10

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF ASPEN COMICS!

mark ROSLAN - mike BOWDEN - david CURIEL - josh REED

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COVER B
10 FOR 10
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Bellicosity

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mark ROSLAN
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lettered by
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Congratulations Mark and Alexis

The Story So Far...

The team struggled with the decision on what to do with Asher--the cyber boy they had unknowingly kidnapped. Upon synching with his interface, Devyn was able to discover the highly valuable ability of DNA sequencing the boy possessed. However, her interfacing was cut short by Roman's betrayal and attempt to steal the boy for Vitadrone, leaving Devyn's state of mental wellbeing in serious danger...

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WELL-- THIS IS A *VERY* SWEET MOMENT.
SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT YOU HAVE SIXTY SECONDS TO GIVE UP THE CYBER-BOY OR CONSIDER YOURSELVES GHOSTS.
WHO THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, CRAINE? YOU MADE ROMAN *BETRAY US*... HIS *FRIENDS!*
WRONG. I MADE HIM AN OFFER HE ***COULD*** HAVE REFUSED, BUT HE ***DIDN'T***... AND ***HAPPILY*** I MIGHT ADD. HE'S A SMART, WEALTHY MAN NOW.
DON'T BE STUPID, MOLLI. GIVE UP THE BOY. THIS DOESN'T HAVE TO GET MESSY.
CAN'T DO THAT JUST YET. WE ***NEED*** HIM. I'LL HAPPILY DROP HIM OVER TO YOU TOMORROW.
SORRY, KIDDO. THE BOY COMES WITH US. DON'T TURN THIS INTO A HUGE MISTAKE.
I THOUGHT YOUR EMPLOYER APPRECIATES DISCRETION.
HE APPRECIATES MY SERVICES. I GET RESULTS-- NO MATTER WHAT.

NOT TODAY!

SPLAM
SPLAM
SPLAM

GNNGH!

TAKE COVER, KYO!

COVER ISN'T AN OPTION RIGHT NOW!

--OFF ME!!

I'M FINE...

...WORRY ABOUT DEVYN AND THE BOY. DON'T LET THEM REACH--

INCOMING--!

BOOM

SPLAM
LET'S SEE WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF GIRL!
-)UNFF(-
-)KOFF(-
VAAP
AAHH!!
TING
TINK
AAAHH!!
AGGH!!
NO ONE COMES TO MY HOUSE, BUSTS DOWN MY DOOR...
...AND EXPECTS ME TO PLAY NICE.

BZZZZTTT
GAAAHH!
YEAAOOWW!
NN--NOOO!
PACKAGE ATTAINED.
OH, NO YOU DON'T!

GOTCHA!
SPLAM
UHFF!
THWAP
YOU'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE...
PPPFFT
PFFT
MOLLI! CRAINE HAS DEVYN!
GO AHEAD GIRLY. TAKE THE SHOT.

VITADRONE HEADQUARTERS.
NOW *THIS* IS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT!
HAH. GOOD. I'M GLAD YOU LIKE IT, ROMAN. THERE IS MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM.
YOU WERE RIGHT TO JOIN US. THERE IS NO PLACE QUITE LIKE VITADRONE. VERY SOON THE *WHOLE WORLD* WILL KNOW THIS.
BELIEVE ME, DRAZIC. I'M HAPPY TO BE HERE. BUT WHY SPEND SO MUCH EFFORT FOR THIS BOY, ASHER?
OH RIGHT, THE HYBRID HAS A NAME. THIS ASHER-- *IS THE FUTURE.* HE WILL LITERALLY MOLD THIS WORLD FOR ME HOW I SEE FIT.
ROMAN, TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT ME. HMM?

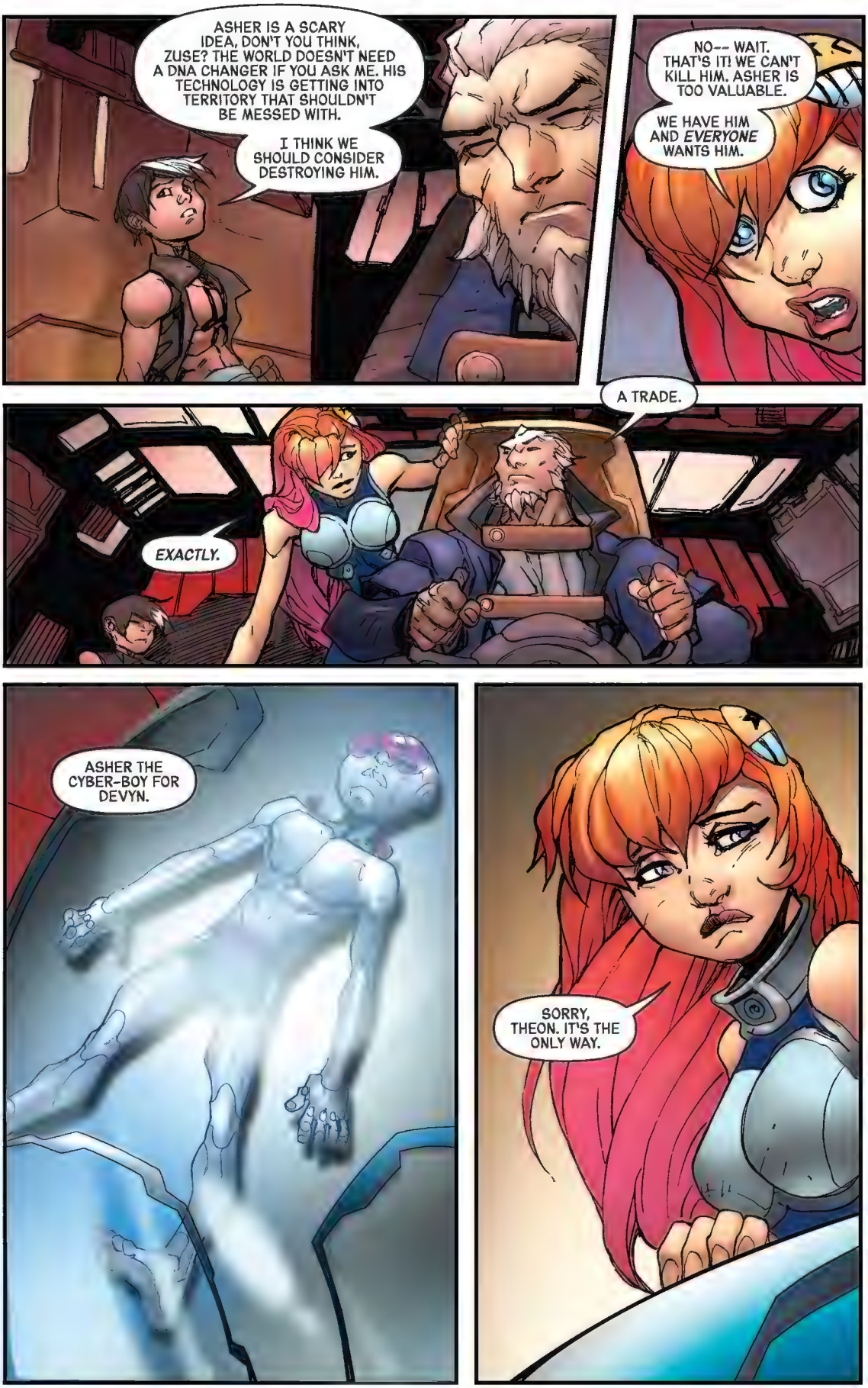
I KNOW YOU CO-CREATED AND RUN VITADRONE, ONE OF THE LARGEST MULTI- BILLION WORLDNOTE CORPORATIONS EVER CREATED. "AS HUMANITY MOVES BOLDLY INTO THE FUTURE--"
"--VITADRONE WILL BE LEADING THE WAY."
THAT'S WHAT I'D EXPECT YOU TO KNOW. BUT ROMAN, I'D LIKE YOU TO KNOW MORE. TO BECOME A CONFIDANT. AND MORESO... A FRIEND.
IN MY FIFTEEN YEARS WITH THE COMPANY, I'VE OVERSEEN THE FIRM'S RISE FROM A FEISTY START-UP TO A MULTINATIONAL CONGLOMERATE. BUT WE HAD TO GET OUR HANDS DIRTY TO DO THIS. LIKE YOU'VE DONE WITH YOUR OLD FRIENDS.
"YEARS AGO, I LOST A CONTRACT TO A COMPETING COMPANY, *TRINION*. THEY INFILTRATED MY PERSONAL SYSTEM WITH HIRED HACKERS, NOT UNLIKE YOU.
"I LEARNED THE HARD WAY THAT BIO-COMPUTATION TECHNOLOGY IS A VERY COMPETITIVE FIELD. THEY KILLED THE LOVE OF MY LIFE, SIMPLY BECAUSE SHE WAS IN THE WAY.
"TRINION DEFEATED ME THAT NIGHT. BUT I CRAWLED BACK. I SHOWED THEM I WILL TAKE OUT EACH AND EVERY COMPETITOR THAT STANDS IN VITADRONE'S WAY, NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?"
THIS BOY WILL HELP ME DO JUST THAT.

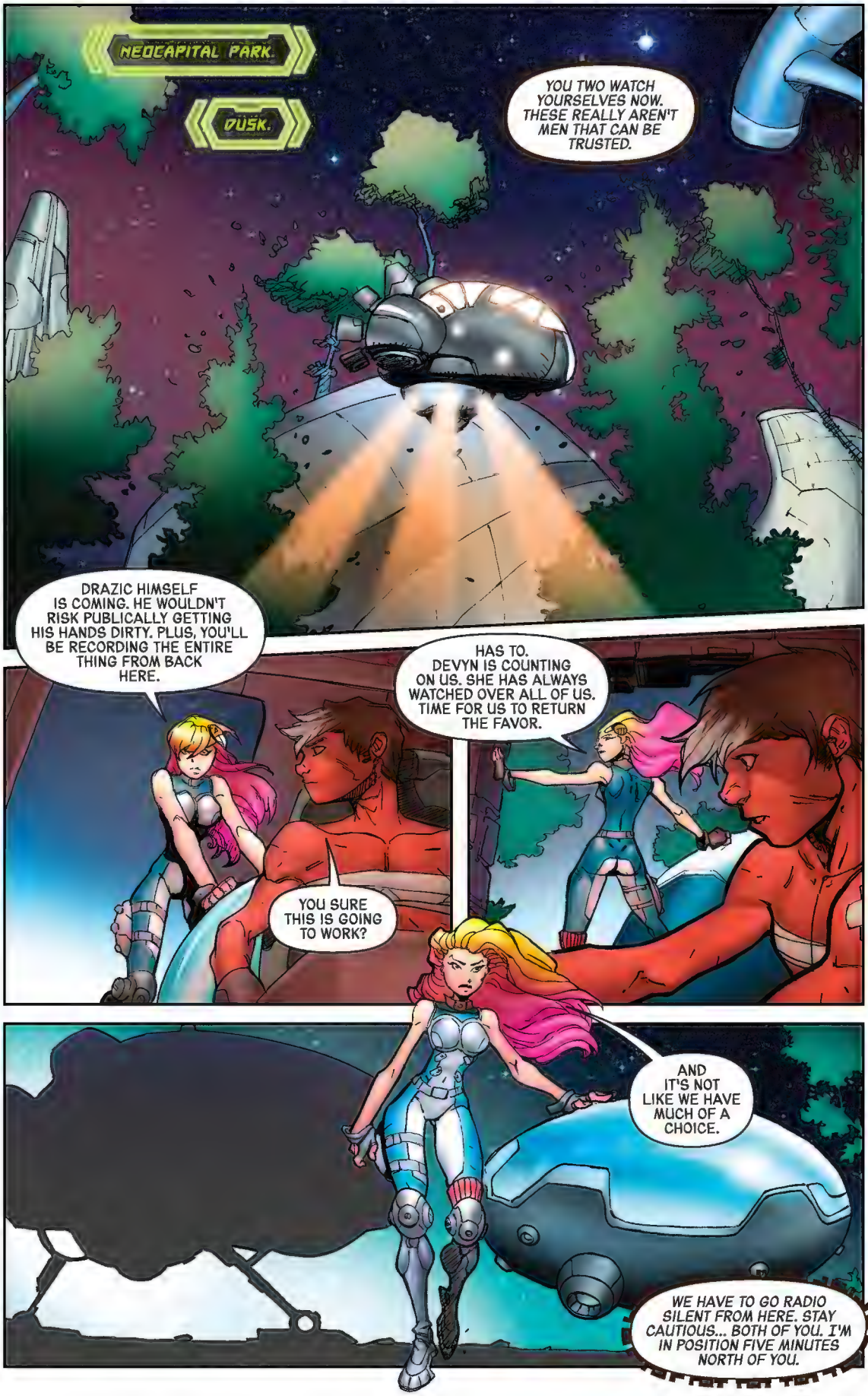
HE'S A GAME CHANGER. A CURE TO THE GROWING GERMS OF MANKIND. WITH HIM I CAN IMPERSONATE WHO I WANT, INFILTRATE WHERE I WANT. *DELETE* WHO I WANT.
I CAN BE ANYONE AND ANYWHERE.
I'D STILL LOVE TO BE ME, OF COURSE. AND YOU... I CAN REGROW YOUR ARM IF YOU'D LIKE. YOU COULD BECOME MY PROXY.
AND ONE DAY SOON, VITADRONE WILL BE ABLE TO CROSSBREED MY ADVANCED SYNTHEZOIDS WITH MEN, CREATING AN ARMY OF LOYAL MAN-O-BOTS!
I NEED A MAN LIKE YOU BY MY SIDE. I PERSONALLY CHOSE YOU TO HELP ME LEAD THEM.
SO TELL ME ROMAN... ARE YOU WITH ME, BROTHER?
YES! I'M WITH YOU. THE *WINNING SIDE.*
THIS WHOLE DAMN WORLD IS A MESS. TOGETHER WE WILL BRING TO IT *ORDER.*

THINGS WERE GOING GREAT. I WAS NEW TO THE CREW, BUT MY OLDER SISTER DEVYN FINALLY INCLUDED ME IN THE BIGGER JOBS WE TOOK IN.
GRABBING GUARDED ENCRYPTED DATA, HACKING A.I. GUIDED PLANES, DESTROYING SECURE MAINFRAMES.
BUT STEALING THE CYBER-BOY MIGHT HAVE BEEN A JOB THAT WAS BIGGER THAN ALL OF US.
FEELS LIKE THE WEIGHT OF THE WORLD IS BETWEEN MY SHOULDERS.
YOU ALRIGHT?
FEELING GLITCHY, BUT I'LL BE FINE.
YOU'RE NOT FINE. YOU WERE JUMPING AROUND ON YOUR SHOT UP LEG.
YOU'RE RIGHT. IT HURTS LIKE HELL.
ZUSE! YOU ALIVE?!?
YEAH, YEAH... JUST CATCHING MY BREATH.
THANK GOD YOU'RE OKAY.
WE CAN'T STAY HERE ANY LONGER. GRAB WHAT YOU CAN.
KYO, PLEASE ACTIVATE THE 'SCORCH AND BURN' SEQUENCE.
LET'S GET TO MY SHIP BEFORE THE COPS FIND US.

ARE-- ARE *YOU* OKAY, MOLLI?
NO. I'M NOT. WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?
DEVYN'S GONE... SHE'S *GONE*, KYO. AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT.
AND THE BASE-- OUR HOME--
IT'S NOT ALL YOUR FAULT. WE WEREN'T READY FOR THIS.
IT'S JUST... STUFF. AS LONG AS EVERYONE IS STILL ALIVE.
I'M SO SORRY GUYS. I REALLY MESSED THINGS UP. I GOT OUR PLACE DESTROYED. I SHOULD'VE HANDLED THAT DIFFERENTLY. AS SOON AS I GET THE WORLDNOTES, I'LL PAY YOU BACK, ZUSE.
CALM DOWN, MOLLI. YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY THINK I HOLD YOU RESPONSIBLE. WE WALK A DANGEROUS WIRE WITH THE WORK WE DO.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE LET THEM TAKE DEVYN.
BUT THAT SECOND SYNTHEZOID GOT ME OFF-GUARD.
ALL THIS FOR SOME CYBORG-- HUMAN-- ANDROID BOY-- THING.
WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS. WE'LL GET DEVYN BACK. WE JUST NEED TO BE SMART... SAFE... REST AND THINK.

CRAINE WAS WILLING TO KILL US ALL FOR HIM. A LIVING PROGRAM THAT MANIPULATES DNA. *SO WHAT?* CRAINE'S BOSS WANTS TO LOSE SOME WEIGHT?
MAYBE ASHER CAN TAP INTO *MY DNA* AND HEAL ME QUICKER.
IF HE COULD CHANGE *ME*, I'D HAVE HIM MAKE ME A LOT MORE LIKE DEVYN. BEAUTIFUL AND TALL.
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS. I WOULDN'T CHANGE A THING ABOUT YOU.
MOLLI, YOU SEEM TO HOLD YOURSELF TO SOME IMPOSSIBLE STANDARD. YOU'RE EVERY BIT AS GREAT AS YOUR SISTER.
I WISH I COULD BELIEVE THAT.


ASHER IS A SCARY IDEA, DON'T YOU THINK, ZUSE? THE WORLD DOESN'T NEED A DNA CHANGER IF YOU ASK ME. HIS TECHNOLOGY IS GETTING INTO TERRITORY THAT SHOULDN'T BE MESSED WITH.
I THINK WE SHOULD CONSIDER DESTROYING HIM.
NO-- WAIT. THAT'S IT! WE CAN'T KILL HIM. ASHER IS TOO VALUABLE.
WE HAVE HIM AND *EVERYONE* WANTS HIM.
A TRADE.
EXACTLY.
ASHER THE CYBER-BOY FOR DEVYN.
SORRY, THEON. IT'S THE ONLY WAY.


NEOCAPITAL PARK.
DUSK.
YOU TWO WATCH YOURSELVES NOW. THESE REALLY AREN'T MEN THAT CAN BE TRUSTED.
DRAZIC HIMSELF IS COMING. HE WOULDN'T RISK PUBLICALLY GETTING HIS HANDS DIRTY. PLUS, YOU'LL BE RECORDING THE ENTIRE THING FROM BACK HERE.
HAS TO. DEVYN IS COUNTING ON US. SHE HAS ALWAYS WATCHED OVER ALL OF US. TIME FOR US TO RETURN THE FAVOR.
YOU SURE THIS IS GOING TO WORK?
AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE HAVE MUCH OF A CHOICE.
WE HAVE TO GO RADIO SILENT FROM HERE. STAY CAUTIOUS... BOTH OF YOU. I'M IN POSITION FIVE MINUTES NORTH OF YOU.

LET'S WRAP THIS UP QUICKLY, SHALL WE CRAINE?
IT'S A SHAME THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT DIFFERENTLY BETWEEN US. TO BE FAIR, WE *DID* MAKE A GENEROUS OFFER.
I'D LIKE TO OFFER A *NEW* PROPOSITION. I NEED TO RECONNECT ASHER AND DEVYN TOGETHER TO WAKE MY SISTER'S CONSCIOUSNESS. IF YOU ALLOW THIS, WE WILL RUN TWO JOBS FOR YOU. NO QUESTIONS ASKED.

INTERESTING. WHILE I COULD USE YOUR SERVICES... I JUST DON'T THINK YOU'RE THE *RIGHT* WOMAN FOR THE JOB. HOW ABOUT THIS... I REBOOT YOUR SISTER FOR YOU...
...BUT I JUST KEEP THEM BOTH.

WHOOOOSH
OH--
BOOOM
YOU--
KYO!

HAHAHA. SMART CHOICE GIRLY.
LET HER GO. THE POLICE ARE ON THEIR WAY.
I SAID STAND DOWN, CRAINE. TO THE SHIP... NOW.
WE HAVE WHAT WE NEED. BESIDES... SHE'S ALREADY BROKEN.
ZUSE, HURRY, YOU GOTTA GET US OUTTA HERE! THE COPS ARE ON THEIR WAY AND-- THEY SHOT DOWN KYO-- AND YOUR HOVERCAR IS ASH!
KYO WAS SHOT? WHAT--?!
I--I DON'T KNOW. THEY FIRED A ROCKET AT HIM AND--

I DON'T SEE THEIR SHIP. I'VE LOST THEM!
KYO! WHAT DO I DO?
=>UNGHH<=
M--MOLLI...
...HURTS LIKE HELL-- BUT I THINK I'M GOING TO BE OKAY.
MY SHIP HAS A FAIL SAFE ENERGY SHIELD THAT SHOULD HAVE DEPLOYED. I WON'T KNOW THE EXTENT OF HIS INJURIES TILL I GET THERE. JUST KEEP CALM.
OH, GOD. I THOUGHT I LOST YOU!
YOU RAN TO ME... INSTEAD OF CHASING AFTER THEM.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
YOUR INSTINCT WAS TO CHECK ON ME... NOT CHASE THEM.
I--I JUST DID WHAT I THOUGHT WAS BEST.

THIS IS ALL TOO MUCH. IT'S LIKE, JUST WHEN EVERYTHING IS GOING GREAT, IT HAS TO TURN FOR THE WORST. WITHOUT FAIL. NEVER THOUGHT THINGS WOULD EVER GET THIS BAD.
THEY TOOK ASHER.
KYO, I'VE LOST DEVYN, BUT I CAN'T LOSE YOU TOO.
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LOSE ME. I'M FINE. I'M RIGHT HERE. I'VE ALWAYS BEEN RIGHT HERE.
I'LL ALWAYS HAVE YOUR BACK. I'LL ALWAYS LOOK AFTER YOU. BUT NOT JUST AS A TEAMMATE, OR FRIEND BUT--
MOLLI, I'M NOT SURE HOW TO TELL YOU THIS...AND IT'S NOT THE BEST TIME BUT--
--CAN YOU STOP TALKING AND-- HOLD ME, KYO-- FOR JUST A LITTLE BIT?

IT'S NICE TO KNOW IT TAKES MORE THAN A MISSILE TO SNUFF ME OUT.
WE'RE SITTING DUCKS OUT HERE. ZUSE WHAT'S YOUR ETA?
COMING IN NOW.
NO ONE HERE IS GIVING UP ON GETTING DEVYN BACK. NOT ME, NOT ZUSE, AND CERTAINLY NOT YOU.
HE'S RIGHT. WE'RE FAMILY. WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER.
OK THEN, BUT TO SET THINGS RIGHT... WE HAVE TO SAVE BOTH DEVYN AND ASHER.
WE'LL HAVE TO BRING THE FIGHT TO VITADRONE'S DOORSTEP.
WHOA-- I TAUGHT YOU ALL TO NOT BELIEVE IN RISK...TO BELIEVE IN PREPARATION.
LET'S PREPARE FOR BATTLE THEN.
I HAVE A FEW THINGS IN STORAGE THAT MIGHT HELP US OUT.
AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO TELL YOU TWO WE CAN DO THIS TOGETHER, WE CAN'T DO THIS ON OUR OWN.
WE'LL GET HELP THEN.
I GOT AN IDEA YOU GUYS ARE NOT GOING TO LIKE IT.
ZUSE-- TAKE US TO JAIL!
To Be Continued In... BubbleGun ISSUE #4

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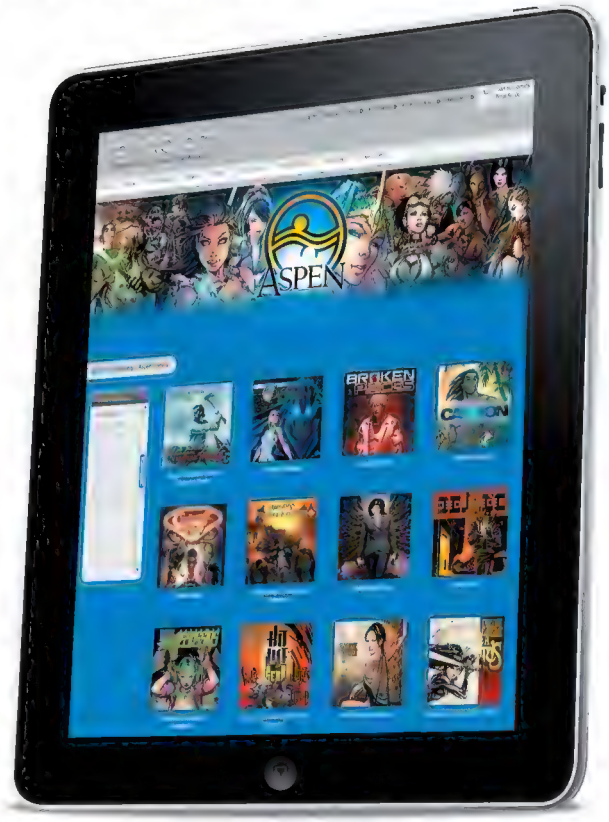

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#4
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10 FOR 10
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF ASPEN COMICS!
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BUBBLE GUN
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#4

COVER B

10 FOR 10

10 YEARS OF ASPEN COMICS!

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ASPEN

Rubble

Cover C

Cover D

Truculence

written by
mark ROSLAN
drawn by
mike BOWDEN
colored by
david CURIEL
and
erick ARCINIEGA
lettered by
josh REED

Bubblegun
created by
Mark Roslan

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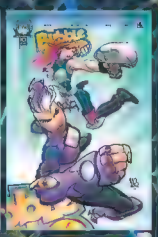
Direct Editor: Marcus To
David Curiel

Cover B



Direct Editor: Micah Gunnell
David Curiel

Cover C

Direct Editor: Cory Smith
David Curiel

Cover D

Direct Editor: Vincenzo Cucca
David Curiel

The Story So Far...

Molli discovered the weight of leading the team might be more than she's able to handle, as she attempted to futilely trade in the valuable cyber boy Asher for the life of her sister, Devyn. However, Drazic and his henchman Craine had other ideas, as they sabotaged the trade and tried to kill the team in the process. Yet, the team was broken but not destroyed, and Molli vowed to recover her lost sister, at any cost...

Editors: Vince Hernandez, Frank Mastromauro Design and Production: Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Josh Reed
Lettering font designed by Josh Reed

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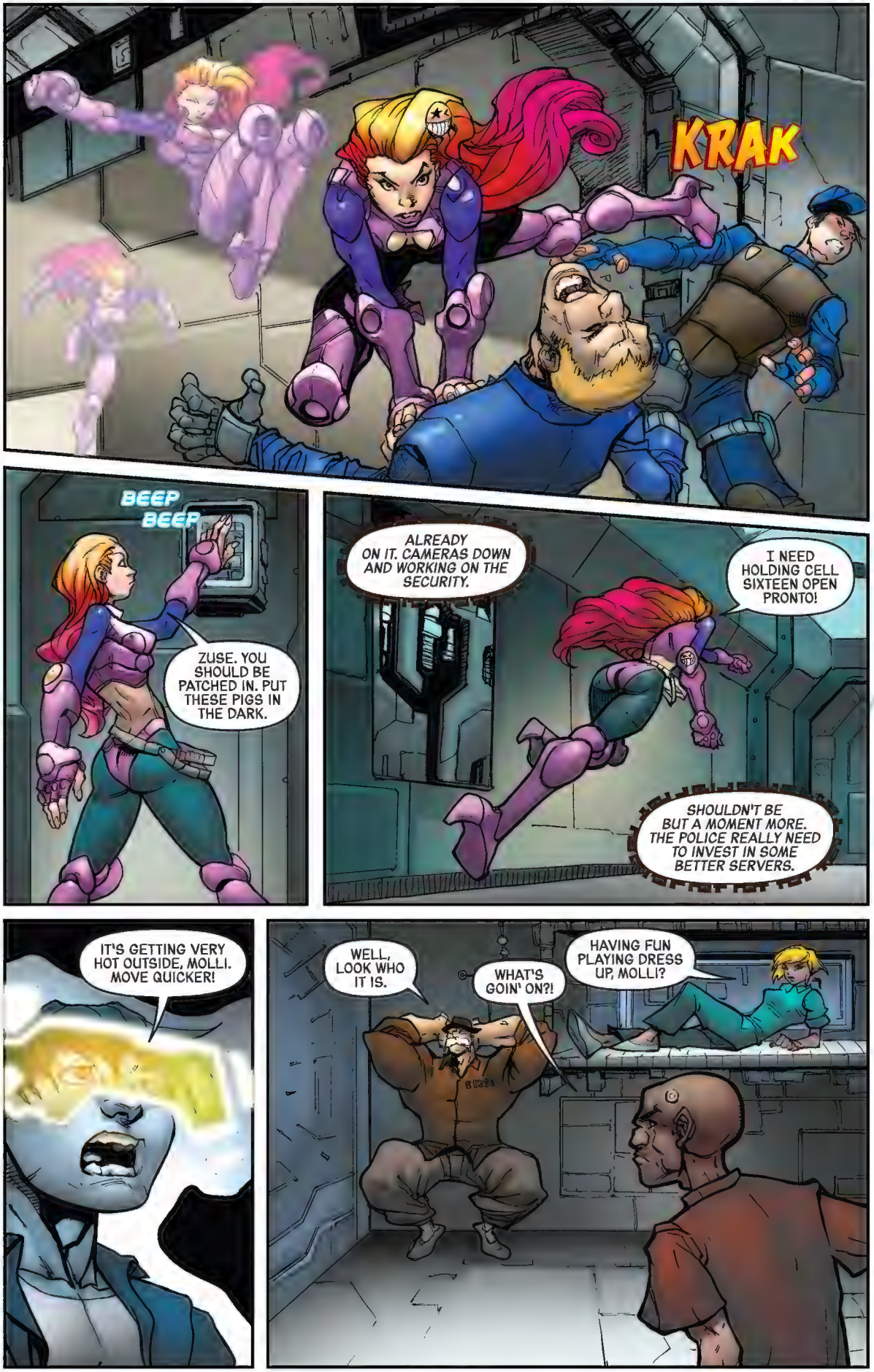
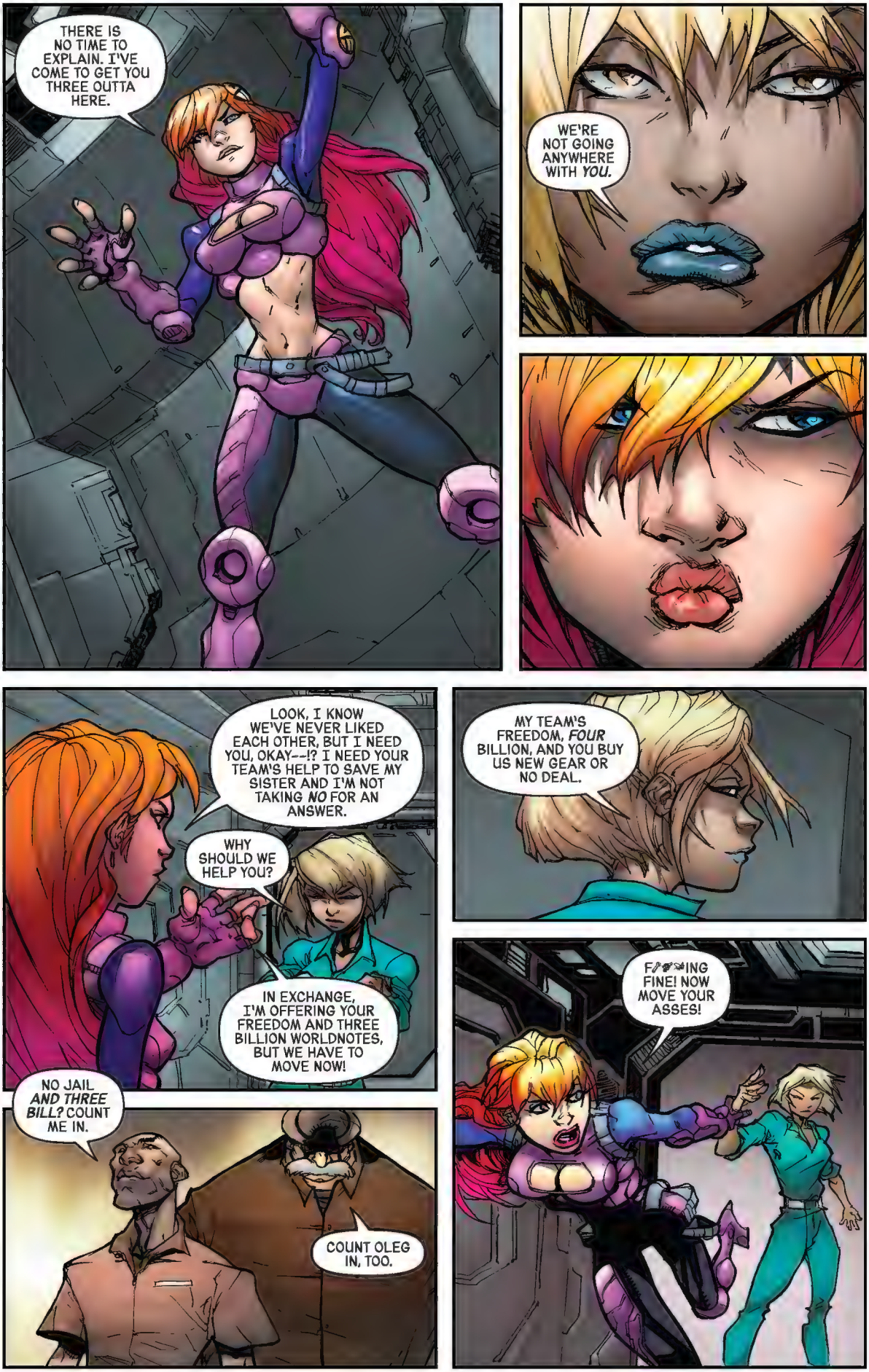
NEOCAPITAL
SIR PENNY'S PUB.
SIR PENNY'S
YOU KNOW I WOULDN'T BE HERE IF I DIDN'T ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO BE. SO YES...
...A JOB OF YOUR CHOOSING, NO QUESTIONS ASKED, IN EXCHANGE FOR *THE DARK LIGHTNING.*
FOUR DAYS. THAT'S ALL I NEED. I'LL EVEN WASH HER FOR YOU.
THE DARK LIGHTNING IS NO ORDINARY *SHIP.* SHE'S LIKE MY CHILD. AND YOU DON'T HURT SIR PENNY'S CHILDREN. ONE SCRATCH ON HER AND I SCRATCH BACK.
WILL YOU BE DOING THE SCRATCHING YOURSELF...
...OR DO YOUR ALLEY CATS DO ALL THE DIRTY WORK FOR YOU?

BAAHAHAHA!
I LIKE YOUR STYLE, MOLLI.
BUT WATCH YOUR DAMN TONGUE WHEN TALKING TO ME...
...OR I'LL HAVE IT *CUT* FROM YOUR PRETTY HEAD.
THE SHIP IS YOURS. RETURN IT IN *THREE* DAYS TIME AND YOUR TEAM OWES ME.
DON'T RETURN IT...
...AND YOU'LL OWE ME FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE. YA'HEAR?

NEOCAPITAL POLICE STATION XV-9
DEVYN TAUGHT US THE KEY TO A PERFECT HEIST IS:
A GOOD DISTRACTION, A GOOD EXECUTION, AND A GREAT ESCAPE PLAN.
S.W.A.T.
THIS S.W.A.T. TANK I JACKED CAN ONLY BUY YOU SO MUCH TIME.
I'M IN POSITION AND GOOD TO GO.
STEALTH AND SPEED ARE YOUR TWO BEST FRIENDS.
WE'VE NEVER BROKEN INTO A POLICE STATION BEFORE, SO CAN'T SAY HOW LONG YOU HAVE. MOVE QUICKLY.
I DON'T KNOW ANY OTHER WAY.
AND ONCE THE PLAN IS SET...
...NO HESITATION.

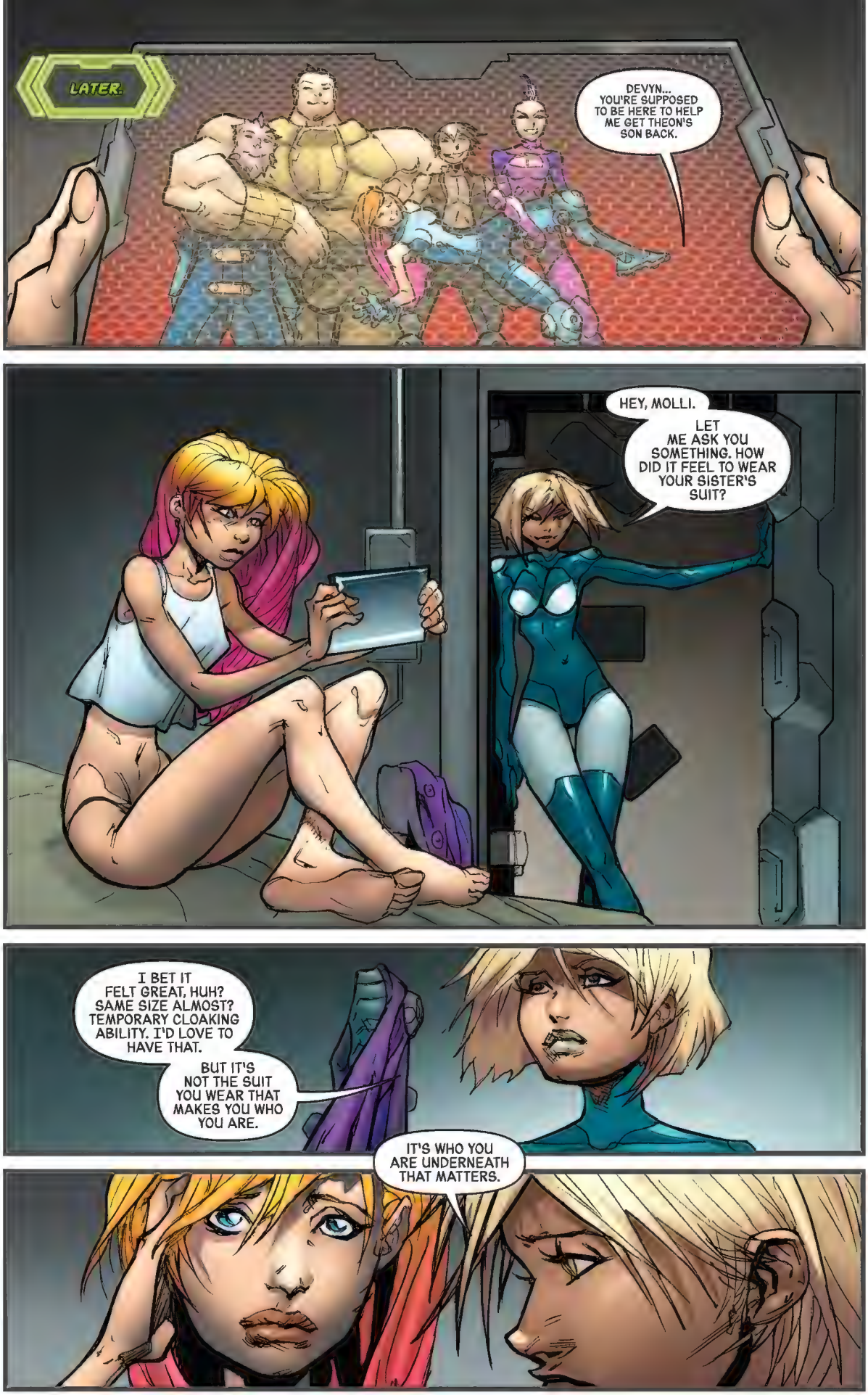
BRAATT
BRATT
FWOOSH
FWOOSH
BOOM
BOOM
WE'RE UNDER ATTACK!
REPEAT! WE'RE UNDER--!
KA-BOOM
ALL AVAILABLE UNITS RESPOND!
WHERE SIR?!
OUR FRONT F@#%ING DOORSTEP!


KRAK
BEEP
BEEP
ZUSE. YOU SHOULD BE PATCHED IN. PUT THESE PIGS IN THE DARK.
ALREADY ON IT. CAMERAS DOWN AND WORKING ON THE SECURITY.
I NEED HOLDING CELL SIXTEEN OPEN PRONTO!
SHOULDN'T BE BUT A MOMENT MORE. THE POLICE REALLY NEED TO INVEST IN SOME BETTER SERVERS.
IT'S GETTING VERY HOT OUTSIDE, MOLLI. MOVE QUICKER!
WELL, LOOK WHO IT IS.
WHAT'S GOIN' ON?!
HAVING FUN PLAYING DRESS UP, MOLLI?


THERE IS NO TIME TO EXPLAIN. I'VE COME TO GET YOU THREE OUTTA HERE.
WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE WITH *YOU.*
LOOK, I KNOW WE'VE NEVER LIKED EACH OTHER, BUT I NEED YOU, OKAY---!? I NEED YOUR TEAM'S HELP TO SAVE MY SISTER AND I'M NOT TAKING *NO* FOR AN ANSWER.
WHY SHOULD WE HELP YOU?
IN EXCHANGE, I'M OFFERING YOUR FREEDOM AND THREE BILLION WORLDNOTES, BUT WE HAVE TO MOVE NOW!
MY TEAM'S FREEDOM, *FOUR* BILLION, AND YOU BUY US NEW GEAR OR NO DEAL.
NO JAIL *AND THREE BILL?* COUNT ME IN.
COUNT OLEG IN, TOO.
F@*%ING FINE! NOW MOVE YOUR ASSES!

THIS GUY IS SO BUSTED!
BRAKK BRAKK BRAKK
MOLLI, YOU NEED TO GET OUT OF THERE NOW! TIME'S UP!
THE POLICE HAVE OPENED THE HATCH!
HOW EXACTLY DO YOU PLAN ON GETTING US OUT OF HERE?
ZUSE! PLAN B! BLOW THE WALL-- NOW!
NO PROBLEM!
FA-WOOOSH

EVERYONE! KEEP RUNNING--
--GET READY TO--
KKZZZT
--JUMP!
SIR, THE S.W.A.T. TANK WAS REMOTELY HACKED.
INTERFERENCE DETECTED.
CONNECTION DROPPED.
UGH. THE COPS TOOK OVER THE TANK.
I KINDA WANTED TO KEEP HER.


LATER.
DEVYN... YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE HERE TO HELP ME GET THEON'S SON BACK.
HEY, MOLLI.
LET ME ASK YOU SOMETHING. HOW DID IT FEEL TO WEAR YOUR SISTER'S SUIT?
I BET IT FELT GREAT, HUH? SAME SIZE ALMOST? TEMPORARY CLOAKING ABILITY. I'D LOVE TO HAVE THAT.
BUT IT'S NOT THE SUIT YOU WEAR THAT MAKES YOU WHO YOU ARE.
IT'S WHO YOU ARE UNDERNEATH THAT MATTERS.

LOOK. YOU'RE A BRIGHT GIRL, BUT... I DON'T KNOW IF YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO GET THROUGH THIS MISSION. THOSE ARE BIG SHOES TO FILL.
WITH DEVYN NOT IN THE SUIT, I'LL FEEL BETTER IF WE RUN WITH *MY* PLAN.
DON'T GET ME WRONG. MY TEAM IS WITH YOU. HELL, THIS MIGHT EVEN BE FUN. BUT SO WE'RE CLEAR, IT'S *STRICTLY* FOR THE MONEY... AND OF COURSE A THANKS FOR OUR FREEDOM.
IT'S JUST BEST IF YOU FOLLOW MY LEAD...
...IF YOU WANT TO SAVE THE CYBER-BOY AND SEE YOUR SISTER AGAIN.
OH, AND IF THINGS GO SOUR... WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO CUT AND RUN. NO HARD FEELINGS, K?

LOCATION UNKNOWN.
HERE'S THE DEAL EVERYONE... WE DON'T HAVE A LOT OF TIME. VITADRONE HAS DEVYN AND THE CYBER-BOY, ASHER. I SUGGEST THE "DIVERSION AND EXTRACTION" TACTIC DEVYN AND I PERFECTED. IT WORKS AND--
--THEY'LL SEE YOU COMING A MILE AWAY. ROMAN'S WITH THEM.
MY TEAM WILL HIT THEM HARD AND FAST. WE'LL PULL DEVYN AND ASHER OUT WHILE YOU GUYS HOLD THEIR SECURITY FORCES BACK. RIGHT, MOLLI?
WHERE IS SHE?
I'M HERE AND I...
...I-I THINK...
...NOT! WE RUN WITH ZUSE'S PLAN, BUT WE'RE TWEAKING IT.
CAPRICE, RIGGS, OLEG... WE HAVE RESPECT FOR YOU. THAT'S WHY WE RISKED IT ALL TO GET YOU THREE OUT OF JAIL, BUT WE'RE PAYING YOU AMPLY TO WORK THIS JOB WITH US. AS A TEAM.
NOW PAY ATTENTION!
THIS IS WHAT WE'LL DO--

WHEN WE WERE YOUNGER, DEVYN ONCE TOLD ME "WHEN LIFE GETS TOUGH... YOU HAVE TO GET TOUGHER."
VITADRONE HEADQUARTERS.
SO THIS IS "THE DARK LIGHTNING." YOU'RE CRAZY FOR THIS ONE, MOLLI.
I DON'T THINK I FULLY UNDERSTOOD WHAT SHE MEANT... TILL NOW.
EVERYONE READY?
REMEMBER... STICK TO THE PLAN AND WE'LL ALL WALK AWAY HAPPY CAMPERS.
OLEG. YOU'RE UP. KEEP THE GROUND FORCES BUSY FOR US.
KYO... LET'S GO! *LIGHT HER UP!*
FTOOSHH
OLEG IS A GO! DON'T FORGET ABOUT ME DOWN HERE!
WHA-BOOOM

MOLLI-- PLEASE BE CAREFUL IN THERE. YOU HEAR ME?
WE'RE GETTING DEVYN AND ASHER BACK TONIGHT. AT ALL COSTS.
JUST WATCH MY BACK FOR ME.
BLAM BLAM
ZUSE! RIGGS! WE NEED SECURITY DOWN ON LEVEL SIXTY-TWO. IF YOU TWO CAN'T DO IT, NO ONE CAN.
ALREADY PATCHED IN. ROUTING TO ZUSE NOW.
THIS IS GETTING FUN. HOW YOU LOOKING, OLEG?

NO PROBLEMS.
FA-WOOOSH
FA-SHOOMM
WAIT, OLEG HAS A CORRECTION. WE HAVE PROBLEMS!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THEY HAVE GOOEY BIO-SOLDIERS!
WHAT!?!
WHAT I SAID... THEY HAVE GOOEY BIO-SOLDIERS!

BRAATT
BKKAP
SPLAM
COPY THAT!
STAY DOWN, STAIN!
BKKAP
BLAM
BKKAAP
BLAM
SPLAM
SPLAM
SORRY ABOUT WHAT I SAID EARLIER BACK AT THE BASE. YOU'RE NOT SO BAD.
LOOK AT THAT. I LIVED LONG ENOUGH TO HEAR YOU SAY "SORRY."
DOESN'T MEAN WE'RE GOOD...
...I STILL LIKE YOUR SISTER MORE.
I THINK SHE'LL DISAGREE WITH YOU IF WE PULL THIS OFF.
YOU DO HAVE BIGGER BALLS THAN HER. BORROWING A GANGSTER'S SHIP, HIRING THE COMPETITION TO HELP YOU, AND BREAKING INTO VITADRONE-- WHAT'S SURE TO BE A SUICIDE MISSION.
JUST DOING WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.
SPLAM
CAPRICE. I'M HEADING UP TOWARDS YOU TWO.

BIO-DRONES ARE DOWN ON THE GROUND FLOOR BUT THEY'LL SEND MORE. WE SHOULD ABORT AND LEAVE WHILE WE STILL CAN.
NEGATIVE. WE NEED MORE TIME! STILL HAVEN'T FOUND DEVYN OR ASHER YET!
STICK TO THE PLAN! FIVE MORE MINUTES!
IT'S GETTING HOT AND HEAVY OUT HERE! I DON'T KNOW IF OUR ESCAPE PLAN IS GOING TO WORK.
ESCAPE PLAN B MIGHT NOT WORK EITHER. RIGGS?
OH, COME ON!
RIGGS!?!

DIIIEEE!!!
KACHOOOM
OLEG, MAN... YOU KNOW I GOT YOU. NOW LET'S FINISH THIS AND GET OUTTA HERE.
FASHOOM
AHH! WHAT HIT ME--!?! I'VE LOST CONTROL!
SON OF A... I'M GOING DOWN! THE DARK LIGHTNING IS GOING DOWN!

SKKRRR

TEKK
BZZT
KTANG
TEKK
SPTANG
SPLAM
BZZT
HAH! HAH! ADIOS, JUNK BOTS!
ZUSE! I'LL NEED YOU TO LOCK THIS DOOR BEHIND US!
KTNK
SURPRISE...
PULSE GRENADE! LOOK OUT--!
AGGGAAHH!
BZZZZTTT

HEY, HOW ABOUT THAT. THE PUNCHY LITTLE PRINCESS IS PREDICTABLY HERE TO SAVE HER SISTER AND NEW FRIEND.
TELL ME-- WAS *THIS* PART OF YOUR PLAN?
To Be Concluded In... BubbleGun ISSUE #5

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THE GRAND FINALE!

#5

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(BROKEN PIECES)

PENCILS BY:
MIKE BOWDEN
(WORLDS OF WARCRAFT, AME-COMI GIRLS)

COLORS BY:
ERICK ARCINIEGA
(CHARISMAGIC)

Featuring This Alternate Cover by
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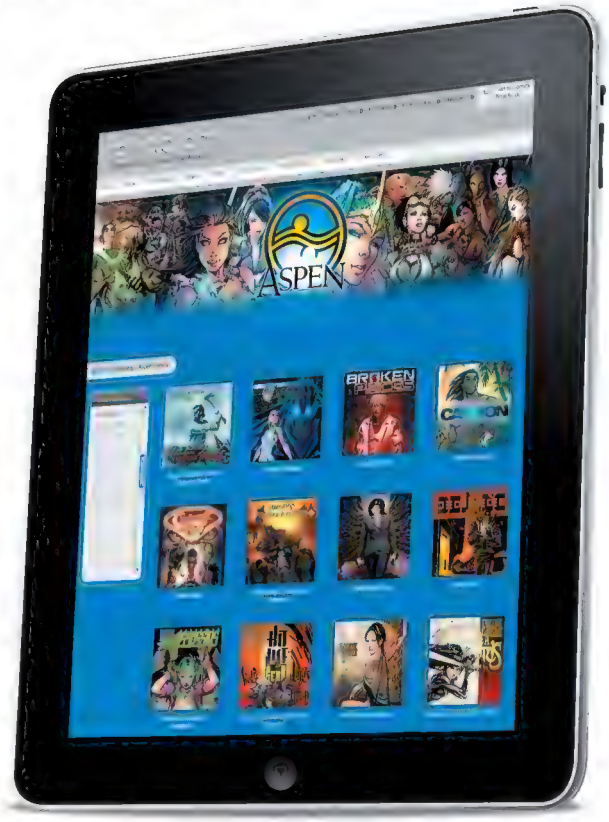

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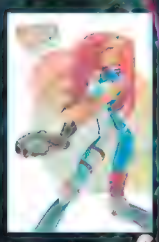

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Otto Schmidt

The Story So Far...

After springing their rivals, Caprice and her gang, free from police custody, Molli and the crew attempted a daring rescue of her sister and the Cyber-Boy, Asher. However, they quickly learn that even with the combined forces of two crews--the might of Vitadrone and their former teammate-turned-enemy Roman could spell doom for the BubbleGun team...

Editors: Vince Hernandez, Frank Mastromauro Design and Production: Mark Roslan, Peter Steigerwald, Josh Reed
Lettering font designed by: Josh Reed

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BUBBLEGUN™ Vol. 1 Issue 5

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I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE ROMAN BETRAYED US.
WE WORKED TOGETHER, FOUGHT TOGETHER, ROMAN-- DID THAT MEAN *NOTHING* TO YOU?
WITH VITADRONE AS MY NEW FRIENDS, I WILL BE A *KING!*
A KING OF GREED!
HMMPH.
I'LL DO YOU THE COURTESY OF NO GUNS.
BIG MISTAKE!

HA!
GIVE UP.
WHACK
GAHH!
STOP FIGHTING AND JOIN US, MOLLI!
VITADRONE IS THE FUTURE.
NO THANKS. I DON'T WANT TO BURN IN HELL WITH YOU!
OOMF!
THWAK
GLOVES OFF. NO MORE MISTER NICE--

BZZT BZZT
--GAAGGHH!!!
BZZT BZZT
BZZZT
YOU'LL PAY FOR THAT!
RRRRAGHH!
CRAASSHH
AAAAAHH!
AAGHH!

NOOOO!
CAPRICE! NO, GOD, PLEASE NO!
HAHAHAHAAA!
I'LL BE OKAY! GO!
KEEP MOVING--!

OLEG, RIGGS. I'LL NEED YOU TO PICK UP CAPRICE! SHE'S--
--I'VE GOT HER POSITION. WE'RE ON IT.
>RELOAD<
BFT
I THINK I FOUND DEVYN AND ASHER. KYO, WE'LL NEED ROOFTOP EVAC IN THREE MINUTES.
UH, BAD NEWS. THE DARK LIGHTNING IS BEYOND DESTROYED AND THERE IS TWO HUNDRED KILOGRAMS OF CRAINE IN MY WAY.
OH, C'MON!
THAT'S JUST... GREAT...

I MUST CONFESS. I'M *COMPLETELY PREPARED* FOR YOUR ARRIVAL, MOLLI. MISDIRECTION-- YOUR TEAM'S SIGNATURE MOVE. ROMAN INFORMED US.
YOU THINK YOU'VE FIGURED US OUT? YOU HAVE *NO IDEA* WHAT WE'RE CAPABLE OF!
I SPARED YOUR LIFE IN THE PARK. IT WAS A *GIFT*-- YOU SHOULD HAVE LEFT US ALONE AND GIVEN UP ON YOUR SISTER. WE NEEDED HER, YOU SEE, TO MAKE ASHER FULLY FUNCTIONAL AGAIN.
HE'S HELPING ME UPGRADE MY SYNTHEZOIDS. ALTERING THEIR DNA.
TURNING THEM INTO WEAPONIZABLE BIO-DRONES THE LIKES OF WHICH THIS WORLD HAS NEVER SEEN... AN ARMY OF LOYAL CYBORGS!
HOW ABOUT A TEST RUN?
SHWOOO

MOLLI! WE'RE HERE.
LETS GET THE-- *HELL* ARE *THOSE* THINGS!?
CREEPY DNA BLENDED MAN-MACHINE MONSTERS! DUH!
THESE ARE JUST THE FIRST GEN MODELS-- PROTOTYPES REALLY. LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF THE RESULTS. IF YOU SURVIVE.
RAARGH!!
KYO, DUST YOURSELF OFF! WE NEED YOUR BUTT IN HERE-- NOW!
SPLAM
SPLAM
BLAM
BRRAP
CHEW ON THIS!

KYO!?!
DO YOU WANT TO TALK TO YOUR FRIENDS? ASK FOR HELP? I'LL WAIT.
I DON'T NEED HELP TO TAKE DOWN A [illegible] LIKE YOU.
SHALL WE?
LET'S!
FAAAASHH
GOTCHA!!

ZUSE--!

THERE'S TOO DAMN MANY OF THEM!

WE CAN'T HOLD.

AAGHH!

TIME TO GET OUTTA HERE!

AGH!

ZUSE, YOU'LL HAVE TO PICK US UP ON THE ROOF!

BLAM

SPLAM

BLAM

THE DOORS ARE SEALED!

I CAN'T REACH KYO!

ZUSE! REMOTE OPEN ALL DOORS!

IT WAS AN HONOR TO WORK WITH YOU, CAPRICE.

SO THIS IS IT...

ZUSE! KYO! WE'RE GOING TO DIE!

KYO!!!

AAAGGHH!
WHAT--?!
THEY JUST... SHUT DOWN.
!?!
WE'RE ALIVE!
AAHHAHAHA!
WE'RE ALIVE!
KYO, WHAT DID YOU DO?!
WE'RE OKAY! THEY SHORT-CIRCUITED. HOW'D YOU DO IT?
KYO, WHERE ARE YOU?

WHAT? WHAT'S HAPPENING?
IMPOSSIBLE! HOW DID YOU STOP THEM?!
YOU MIGHT HAVE STOPPED DRAZIC'S BIO-DRONES BUT IT IS NO MATTER. YOUR SISTER IS VITADRONE PROPERTY NOW, AND ASHER WILL NEVER SEE HIS WEAK FATHER AGAIN.
THERE IS NO VICTORY FOR YOU HERE TODAY.
YOU'RE HOSTILE TRESPASSERS AND NOW THE MOST WANTED CYBER-THIEVES IN THE CITY.
WHETHER YOU ESCAPE AND LIVE, OR STAY AND DIE, IT ONLY GETS *WORSE* FOR YOU FROM HERE, CRAINE. I TRUST YOU CAN HANDLE THESE CULPRITS?

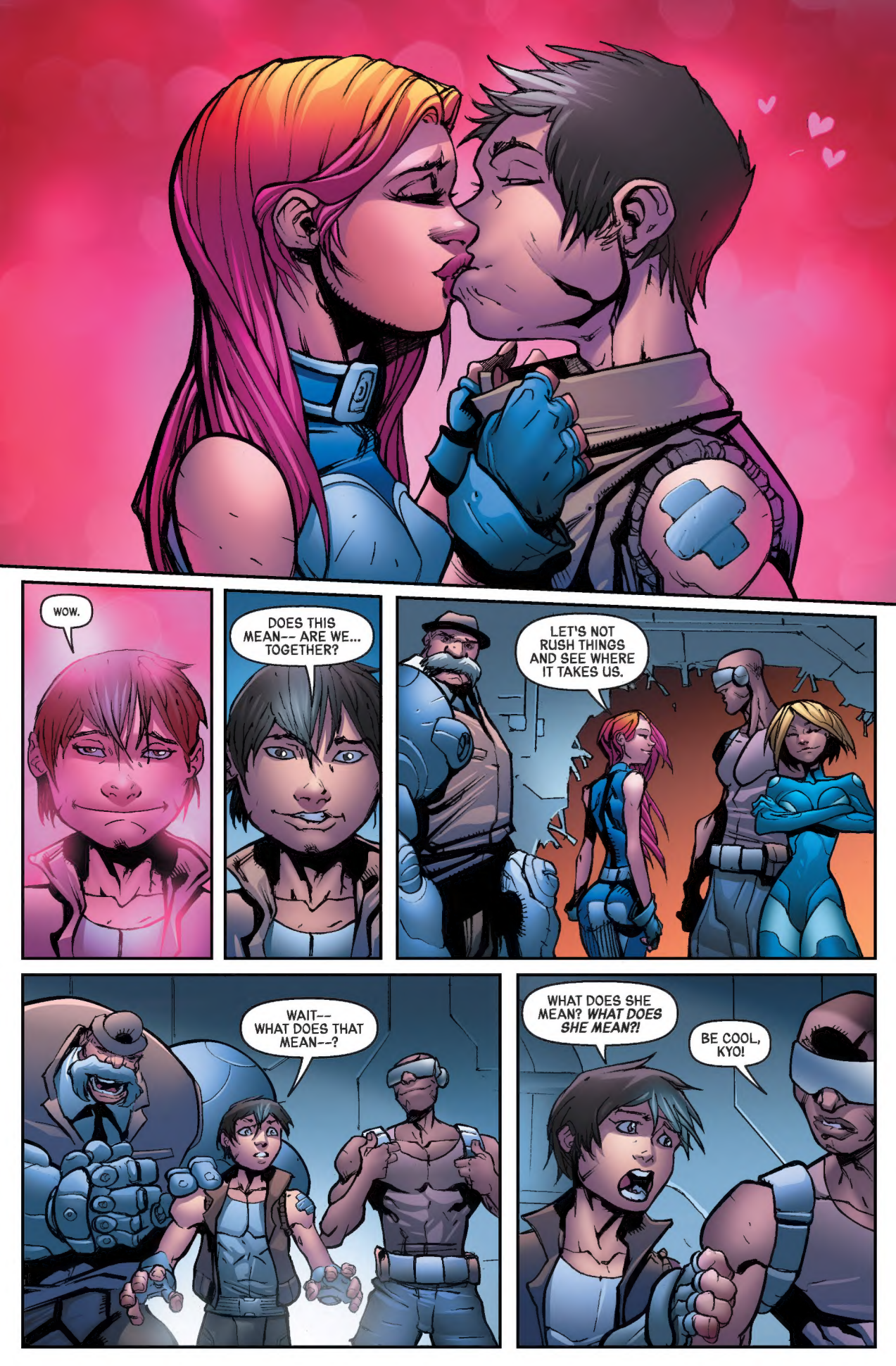
BZZT SKZZZZT
IT'LL BE MY PLEASURE.
COMPUTER. PASSWORD "GUARDIAN."
PROTOCOL: GUARDIAN INITIATED.
SKZZZZT
BZZT
SHUNK
TTSSSSS
SHUNK
SKZZZZT
SHUNK
YA GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME.
HEH.
I PROMISE YOU... I'LL *ENJOY* THIS.

THE FUTURE BELONGS TO VITADRONE!
FAAASH
FAAASH
BLAM BLAM
TING
GGGH!
KRAK
GOTCHA!
GAA--
STAY STILL AND ACCEPT YOUR FATE!
AAGH--
HAHAHAHA!
HOW LONG DO YOU EXPECT TO LAST AGAINST ME?
WHOMP
NOTHING BUT INSECTS. YOU FOOLS HAVE NO IDEA HOW SMALL YOU ARE.

ENOUGH OF THIS! CUT THE WRETCHES DOWN!
FAAASH
HHAARGH!
FWAKK
THAT HAD TO HURT.
THUD
MY... NNGH... PRESENCE HERE IS NO LONGER REQUIRED. THE POLICE ARE WARNED OF YOUR INTRUSION.
FINISH THEM OFF, CRAINE. NO MERCY!
Vmmm
SHWOOO--
THIS IS FAR FROM OVER.
SHWOOOM

DRAZIC?!
NO MATTER-- THESE SCUM ARE FINISHED!
MOLLI! KILL HIM!
UUGGHH!
MOLLI! TAKE THE SHOT--!
GRRAHH!
NO!
KRACK
CLICK
NO KILLING...
...ONLY JUSTICE!

KA-SPLAM
I COULDN'T KILL HIM.
NOT EVEN CRAINE DESERVES TO DIE.
IT ISN'T IN ME, AND I'M FINE WITH THAT.
HEH. WELL DONE.
KYO! THANK GOD YOU'RE ALIVE!
I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT.
I KNOW... YOU'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN ME.


WOW.
DOES THIS MEAN-- ARE WE... TOGETHER?
LET'S NOT RUSH THINGS AND SEE WHERE IT TAKES US.
WAIT-- WHAT DOES THAT MEAN--?
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN? *WHAT DOES SHE MEAN?!*
BE COOL, KYO!

HOW LONG WAS I OUT?
DEVYN! YOU'RE AWAKE!
ASHER FIXED ME. THE TWO OF US WERE CONNECTED THE WHOLE TIME. I COULD MAKE OUT THINGS HERE AND THERE, BUT ONE THING WAS CLEAR-- YOU'VE SEEN OUR DARKEST DAY AND SURVIVED IT. WITH SOME HELP, I SEE.
THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME, MOLLI.
JUST FOLLOWING WHAT YOU TAUGHT ME, SIS.
SO-- WAS IT YOU WHO STOPPED THE BIO-DRONES FROM CUTTING US DOWN?
NO. IT WASN'T ME--
--IT WAS ME.
DRAZIC FORCED ME TO HELP BUILD THEM, BUT DEVYN AWAKENED MY HUMAN SUBCONSCIOUS. I WAS ABLE TO TAP INTO VITADRONE'S SYSTEM AGAIN AND DESTROY THEIR PROGRAMMING.
ASHER! WE HAVE TO CALL YOUR FATHER, THEON!
NO--!
ASHER AND I GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER VERY WELL WHILE WE CONNECTED. WE CAN NOT TAKE HIM TO HIS FATHER.
HE IS NOT WHO HE SAYS HE IS.
AS MUCH AS I'D LIKE TO SOAK IN THIS MOMENT, WE CAN'T STAY.
THE F.B.I. IS DEFINITELY ON THEIR WAY.

DRAZIC WILL BE AFTER US. HE'S DRIVEN.
WELL... WE'LL HAVE TO BE PREPARED THEN.
OH, AND SIR PENNY WILL BE AFTER US, TOO.
WHAT DID YOU DO?!
TELL YA LATER.
A FUSE IS LIT IN ME. I FEEL AWAKE. I FEEL-- ALIVE!
KYO HELPED ME BELIEVE IN MYSELF.
LET'S GET THE HELL OUTTA HERE TEAM!
IN A WAY. HE HELPED ME UNDERSTAND WHO I WAS... WHO I AM.
AND NOW, I'D LIKE TO RETURN THE FAVOR TO ASHER.
THE NEWEST MEMBER OF OUR TEAM.
Thanks for Reading:)
BubbleGun
THE END?!

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